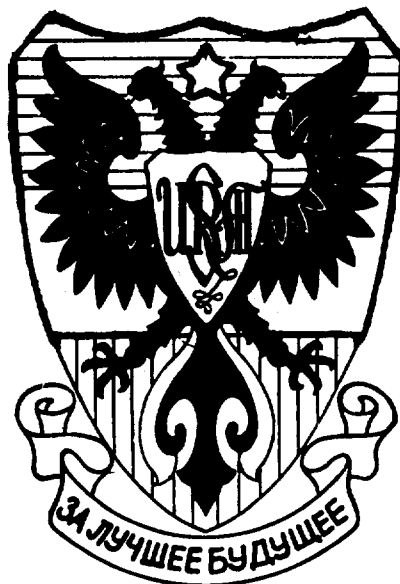


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# U.S. ARMY RUSSIAN INSTITUTE



## STUDENT RESEARCH REPORT

THE RIGHT STUFF AND THE FAST TRACK:  
A LOOK AT SOVIET MILITARY DISTRICTS  
AND THEIR COMMANDERS, 1945 - 1981

1981  
DANIEL L. GALLEY

GARMISCH, GERMANY

APO NEW YORK 09053

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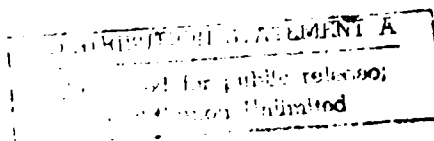
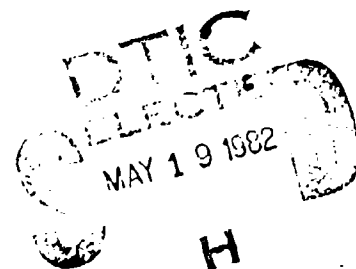


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THE RIGHT STUFF AND THE FAST TRACK:  
A LOOK AT SOVIET MILITARY DISTRICTS AND THEIR COMMANDERS,  
1945 - 1981

by  
Daniel L. Galley

U.S. ARMY RUSSIAN INSTITUTE  
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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
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APO NEW YORK 09053

FOREWORD

This research project represents fulfillment of a student requirement for successful completion of the overseas phase of training of the Department of the Army's Foreign Area Officer Program (Russian).

Only unclassified sources are used in producing the research paper. The opinions, value judgements and conclusions expressed are those of the author and in no way reflect official policy of the United States Government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army, the US Army Intelligence and Security Command, or the Russian Institute. The completed paper is not to be reproduced in whole or in part without permission of the Commander, US Army Russian Institute, APO New York 09053.

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*Geoffrey H. Kleb*  
GEOFFREY H. KLEB  
LTC, MI  
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## SUMMARY

The purpose of this paper is to give a history of Soviet military districts (MD) that have existed since 1 January 1945. It is not meant to be a complete history. Therefore, it will not deal with number and type of units, the mission, training history, or command structure of each MD. It will, instead, concentrate on: (1) what MDs have existed, (2) where and when they existed, (3) who commanded the MDs, (4) which MDs constitute the "fast track" to promotion.

Ranks will follow the Russian word order to reduce confusion with similar American ranks. The ranks that will be used in the paper and their abbreviations in descending order are:

Marshal of the Soviet Union	MSU
General of the Army	G-A
General-Colonel	G-C
General-Lieutenant	G-L
General-Major	G-M

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## SOVIET TERRITORIAL COMMAND 1945 - 1981: AN OVERVIEW

According to the Soviet Military Encyclopedia,

The military district is a territorial combined-arms strategic formation (OB'EDINENIYE) of formations (SOYEDINENIYE), and units (CHAST'), military education institutions, and various local military establishments. The division of a nation's territory... has the purpose of ensuring the carrying out of measures connected with preparing the nation and armed forces for war, to facilitate troop command, and to more purposefully organize the training of troops and headquarters.

The division of the Russian nation into military districts was begun under Tsar Aleksandr II in 1862 and was continued by the Soviets after they came to power during the October Revolution of 1917. By the beginning of Soviet involvement in World War II, there were in existence 16 military districts and the Far East Front. As the German invaders pushed eastward in the first half of the war, the number of MDs dwindled. Regardless of the advance of German troops to within a few miles of the Moscow city limits in late 1941, however, the Moscow MD was never disbanded as MDs to the west and south of it were. It remained the westernmost MD until mid-1943, when the Germans were forced to begin their reluctant westward movement. As the German troops were expelled from Soviet territory, MDs were created to fill the void left behind the advancing Soviet forces. By the end of 1944, seven MDs had been recreated: Khar'kov (15),\* Kiev (16), L'vov (19), North Caucasus (23), Odessa (25), Orel (26), and Southern Ural (29). (See map 1.)+

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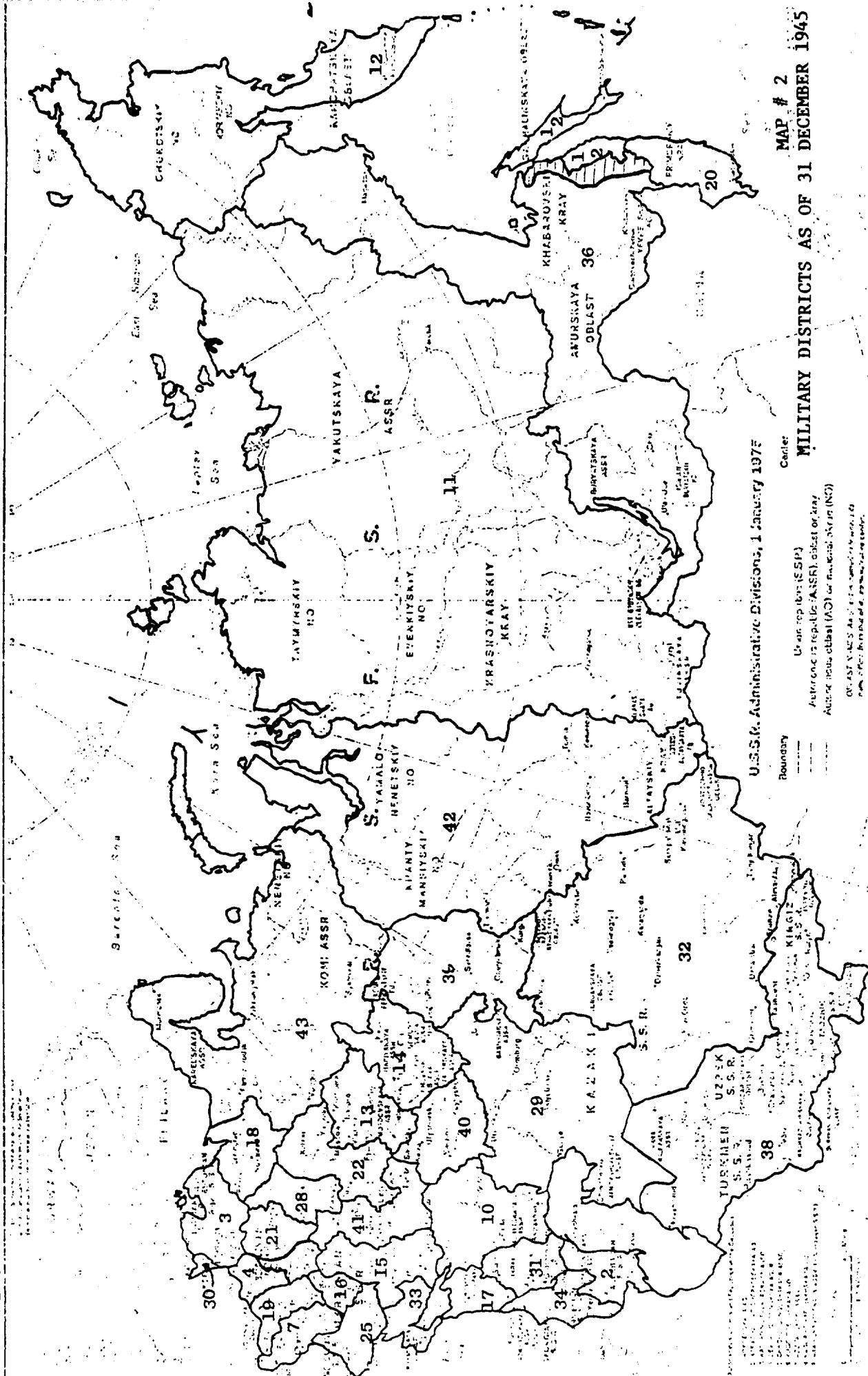
\* The numbers following the MD names indicate the number by which they are identified on the accompanying maps.

+ Appendix I contains a history of the creations, mergers, and dissolutions concerning the 42 MDs that have existed since 1 January 1945.





MILITARY DISTRICTS AS OF: 31 December 1945

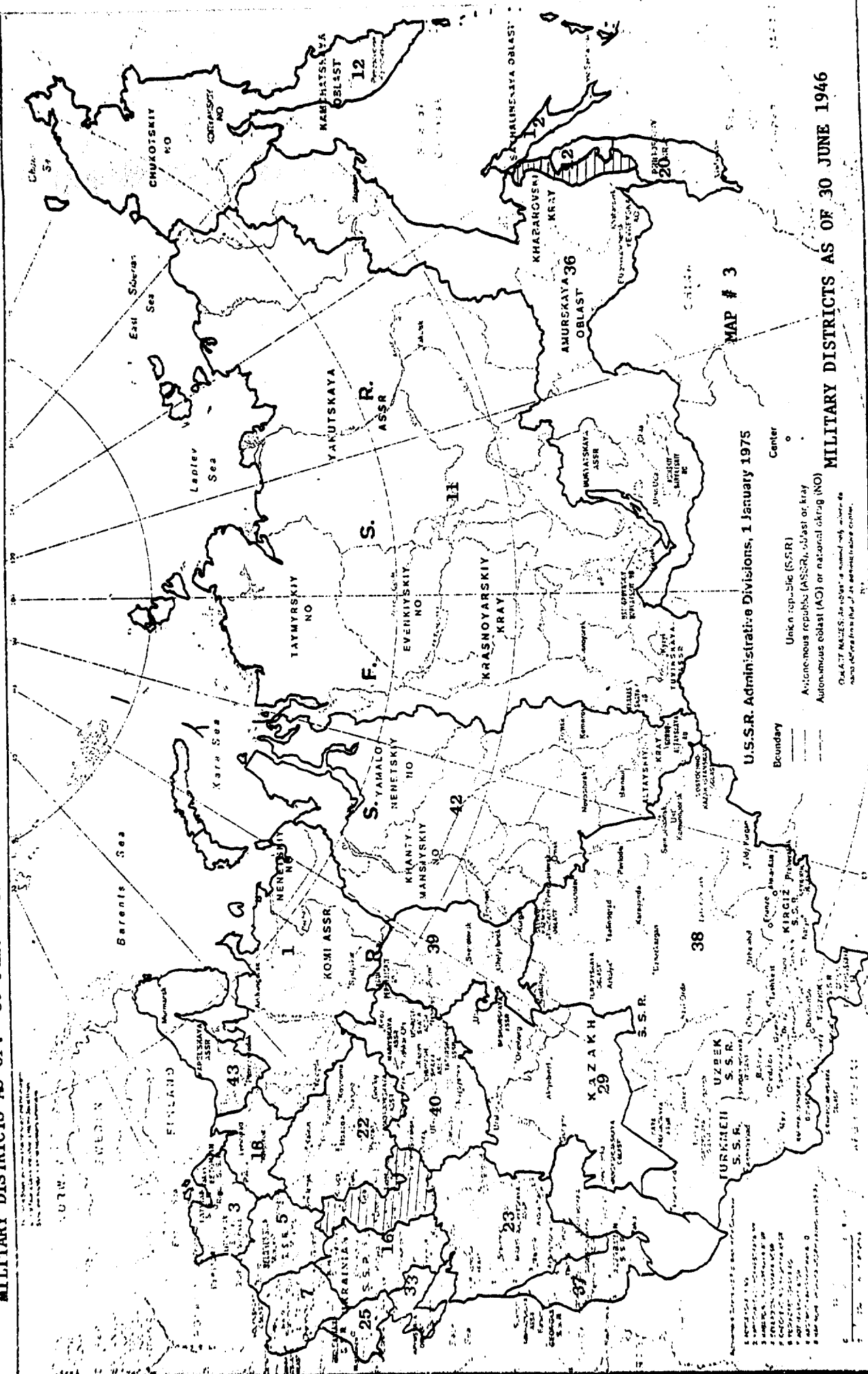


On 23 June 1945 the Supreme Soviet enacted a law concerning demobilizing Soviet soldiers and officers starting with oldest age group (55) and working downward to age 22. The demobilization was carried out in six stages: the first two in 1945, the third from May through September 1946, a fourth in 1946, and the last two in 1947. By 1948 the Soviets had demobilized approximately 8.5 million people from the army and navy, so that the strength of the military stood at 2,874,000 people.<sup>2</sup>

A major reorganization was ordered on 9 July 1945 by the People's Commissar of Defense, I. V. Stalin, in which at least 13 MDs were created, thereby raising the total to 32 MDs. The purpose of creating so many new MDs was two-fold: (1) to facilitate demobilization by creating more demobilization areas, (2) to rapidly integrate the more experienced army and front commanders into the MD system. For example, on 31 December 1944, there were two MDs in the Western Ukraine and Belorussian SSR. Seven months later, the same area was under the control of four MDs as the Belorussian MD was split into the Baranovich and Minsk MDs, and the Carpathian MD was created between them and the L'vov MD. In May 1946, the Baranovich and Minsk MDs were joined together as the reconstituted Belorussian MD -- this time with Marshal Timoshenko in command. At the same time, the L'vov MD was merged with the Carpathian MD. The result was that where in June 1945 two general-lieutenants were in command -- both relatively inexperienced in combat -- less than a year later, a general-colonel and a Marshal of the Soviet Union -- both combat veterans -- and their staffs were in charge of the MDs. The following chart shows the flow of command.

MD COMMANDERS REPLACED BY COMBAT EXPERIENCED COMMANDERS, 1945 - 1946

Military Districts	Commanders		
	June 1945	July 1945	May 1946
Baranovich	*	S.K. Timoshenko, MSU	*
Belorussian	V.F. Yakovlev, G-L	*	S.K. Timoshenko, MSU
Minsk	*	V.F. Yakovlev, G-L	*
L'Vov	I.K. Smirnov, G-L	M.M. Popov, G-C	*
Carpathian	*	A.I. Yeremenko, G-A	K.N. Galitskiy, G-C

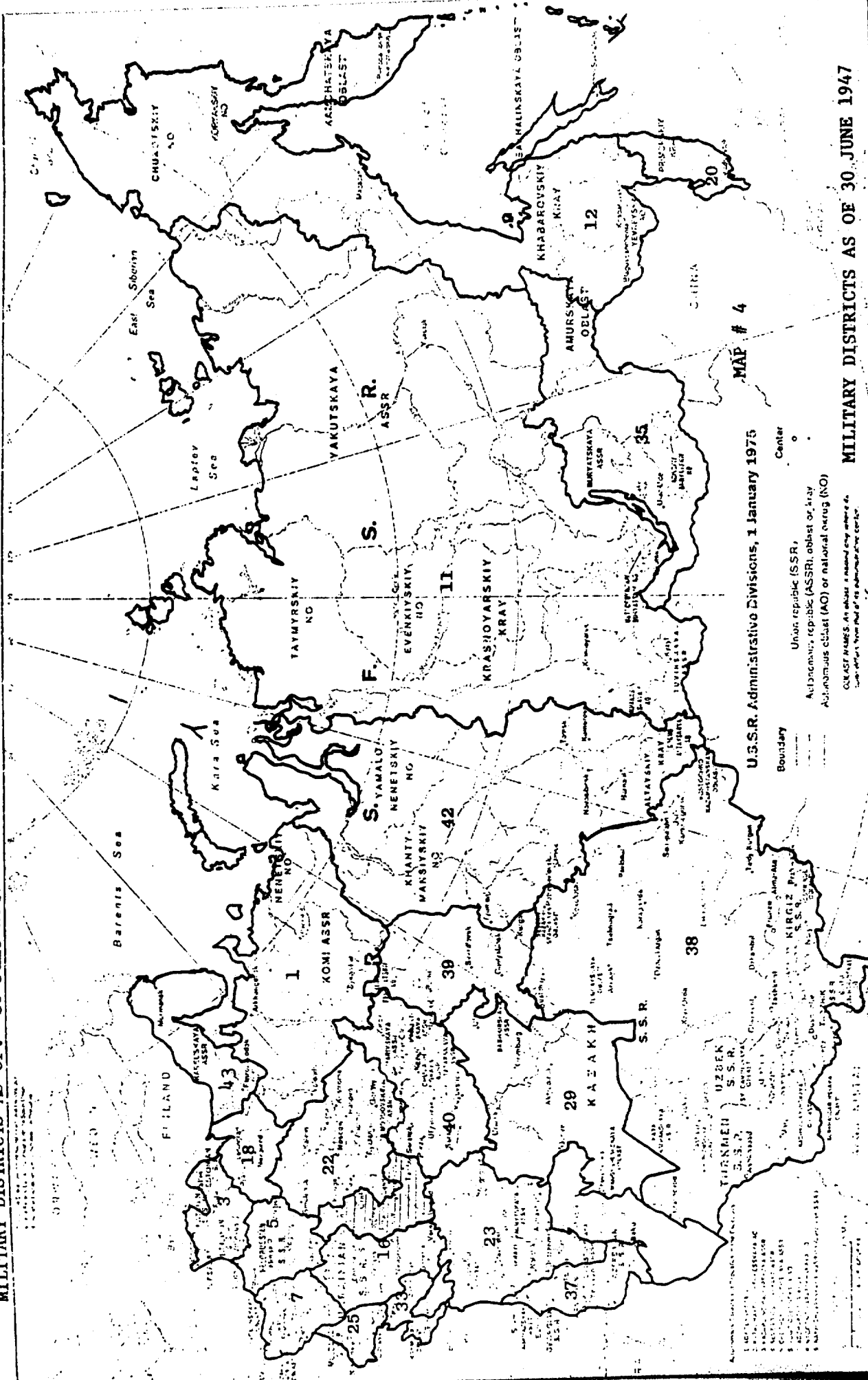


In this way, Stalin, who was feeling unsure of his wartime allies, was ready with his combat-proven commanders on the western border in case the European and American allies resumed hostilities -- this time against the Soviet Union. As the West quickly demobilized, however, Stalin's suspicions were eased and the work necessary for demobilizing and reorganizing the military in order to put the Soviet Union on a peace-time footing was carried out. By June 1946, four military districts had been set up and 15 disbanded, thus reducing the total number of MDs to 21. (See map 3.)

In May 1947, the Soviets created a theater command "in order to have a more efficient command of several MDs in the east of the USSR as well as the Pacific Ocean Fleet and the Amur Flotilla".<sup>3</sup> The territory placed under the Commander-in-Chief (CINC) of the Far East Forces (GLAVNOKOMANDUYUSHCHIY VOYSKAMI NA DAL'NEM VOSTOKE), MSU R. Ya. Malinovskiy, stretched from west of Lake Baykal to the Komandorskiye and Kurile Islands in the Pacific Ocean and on to the Bering Straits. (See map 5.) The Transbaykal (35), Far East (12), and Maritime (20) MDs were subordinate to this new theater command which remained in existence until 23 April 1953.

During the life of the Far East Forces, the Communist Chinese forces began their drive in northern China against Chiang Kai-shek that ended in victory two years later in 1949; and the North Koreans attacked the south in June 1950 initiating hostilities lasting three years that soon involved Chinese Communist "volunteers" and United Nations forces. The reason for the existence of the Soviet theater command in the Far East seems to be tied to these events. That is not to say that in 1947 the Soviets knew that North Korea would attack South Korea in 1950. It is,

# MILITARY DISTRICTS AS OF: 30 June 1947



## 9



however, likely that the command was created to act as a defensive backstop for the Communist Chinese when they were retreating before Chiang Kai-shek's successful offensive. When Mao Tse-tung went over to the offensive in 1947, the Soviet Far East Forces acted as a conduit for war materiel to Mao's forces.

The Far East Forces were still needed in 1949, despite the victory of Mao Tse-tung in China, because the North Koreans were planning, with the aid of Soviet arms, to attack South Korea. The conduit was necessary for the successful execution of North Korean aims. By the end of 1950, several Soviet air divisions had been sent to fly air cover over the north-eastern provinces of Korea and five Soviet divisions were ready to be sent to the aid of China, if the situation in Korea worsened.<sup>4</sup> These Soviet units were probably subordinate to the theater command in the Soviet Far East.

In 1949, the Soviets began to increase the size of their army and navy. That summer three MDs were created: Don (10), Gor'kiy (13), and Voronezh (41), thereby raising the total to 24 military districts. (See map 6.)

Following the death of Stalin in March 1953, the entire Soviet military establishment underwent a major reorganization. At the military district-level, command was streamlined by removing the theater echelon from the chain of command of the MDs in the Far East, four MDs were disbanded (Don [10], East Siberian [11], Gor'kiy [130], and Maritime [20]) reducing to twenty the number of military districts. (See map 7.) From 1955 to 1958, the Soviets reduced the number of armed forces personnel by 2,140,000 to a strength of 3,623,000<sup>5</sup> and consolidated parts of seven MDs into four larger MDs. The disbanding of three MDs (South Ural [29],



U.S.S.R. Administrative Divisions, 1 January 1975

MAP # 6

Legend:

- Boundary
- Center
- Union republic (SSR)
- Autonomous republic (ASSR), oblast or kray
- Autonomous oblast (AO) or national district (NO)

31 DECEMBER 1949

MAP # 6

Boundary

Union republic (SSR)

Auto: common republic (ASSR), often: or trav

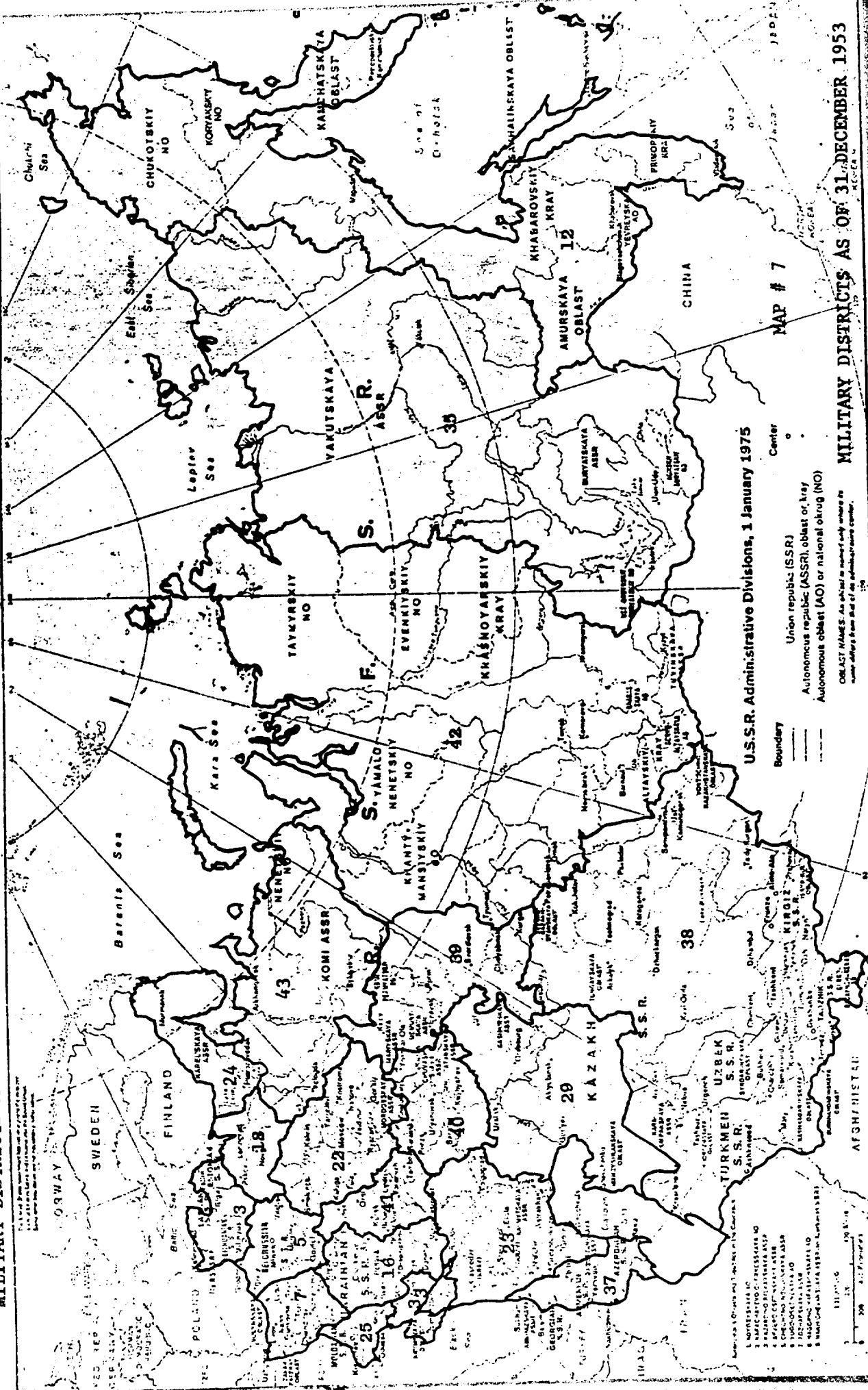
Autonomous objects (AOs) or national objects (NOs)

autonomous 00:35; (NO) or natural 00:40 (NO)

GRACE, NANCY. A. 1841-1842. 1843. 1844. 1845. 1846. 1847. 1848. 1849. 1850. 1851. 1852. 1853. 1854. 1855. 1856. 1857. 1858. 1859. 1860. 1861. 1862. 1863. 1864. 1865. 1866. 1867. 1868. 1869. 1870. 1871. 1872. 1873. 1874. 1875. 1876. 1877. 1878. 1879. 1880. 1881. 1882. 1883. 1884. 1885. 1886. 1887. 1888. 1889. 1890. 1891. 1892. 1893. 1894. 1895. 1896. 1897. 1898. 1899. 1900. 1901. 1902. 1903. 1904. 1905. 1906. 1907. 1908. 1909. 1910. 1911. 1912. 1913. 1914. 1915. 1916. 1917. 1918. 1919. 1920. 1921. 1922. 1923. 1924. 1925. 1926. 1927. 1928. 1929. 1930. 1931. 1932. 1933. 1934. 1935. 1936. 1937. 1938. 1939. 1940. 1941. 1942. 1943. 1944. 1945. 1946. 1947. 1948. 1949. 1950. 1951. 1952. 1953. 1954. 1955. 1956. 1957. 1958. 1959. 1960. 1961. 1962. 1963. 1964. 1965. 1966. 1967. 1968. 1969. 1970. 1971. 1972. 1973. 1974. 1975. 1976. 1977. 1978. 1979. 1980. 1981. 1982. 1983. 1984. 1985. 1986. 1987. 1988. 1989. 1990. 1991. 1992. 1993. 1994. 1995. 1996. 1997. 1998. 1999. 2000. 2001. 2002. 2003. 2004. 2005. 2006. 2007. 2008. 2009. 2010. 2011. 2012. 2013. 2014. 2015. 2016. 2017. 2018. 2019. 2020. 2021. 2022. 2023. 2024. 2025. 2026. 2027. 2028. 2029. 2030. 2031. 2032. 2033. 2034. 2035. 2036. 2037. 2038. 2039. 2040. 2041. 2042. 2043. 2044. 2045. 2046. 2047. 2048. 2049. 2050. 2051. 2052. 2053. 2054. 2055. 2056. 2057. 2058. 2059. 2060. 2061. 2062. 2063. 2064. 2065. 2066. 2067. 2068. 2069. 2070. 2071. 2072. 2073. 2074. 2075. 2076. 2077. 2078. 2079. 2080. 2081. 2082. 2083. 2084. 2085. 2086. 2087. 2088. 2089. 2090. 2091. 2092. 2093. 2094. 2095. 2096. 2097. 2098. 2099. 2100. 2101. 2102. 2103. 2104. 2105. 2106. 2107. 2108. 2109. 2110. 2111. 2112. 2113. 2114. 2115. 2116. 2117. 2118. 2119. 2120. 2121. 2122. 2123. 2124. 2125. 2126. 2127. 2128. 2129. 2130. 2131. 2132. 2133. 2134. 2135. 2136. 2137. 2138. 2139. 2140. 2141. 2142. 2143. 2144. 2145. 2146. 2147. 2148. 2149. 2150. 2151. 2152. 2153. 2154. 2155. 2156. 2157. 2158. 2159. 2160. 2161. 2162. 2163. 2164. 2165. 2166. 2167. 2168. 2169. 2170. 2171. 2172. 2173. 2174. 2175. 2176. 2177. 2178. 2179. 2180. 2181. 2182. 2183. 2184. 2185. 2186. 2187. 2188. 2189. 2190. 2191. 2192. 2193. 2194. 2195. 2196. 2197. 2198. 2199. 2200. 2201. 2202. 2203. 2204. 2205. 2206. 2207. 2208. 2209. 2210. 2211. 2212. 2213. 2214. 2215. 2216. 2217. 2218. 2219. 2220. 2221. 2222. 2223. 2224. 2225. 2226. 2227. 2228. 2229. 2230. 2231. 2232. 2233. 2234. 2235. 2236. 2237. 2238. 2239. 2240. 2241. 2242. 2243. 2244. 2245. 2246. 2247. 2248. 2249. 2250. 2251. 2252. 2253. 2254. 2255. 2256. 2257. 2258. 2259. 2260. 2261. 2262. 2263. 2264. 2265. 2266. 2267. 2268. 2269. 2270. 2271. 2272. 2273. 2274. 2275. 2276. 2277. 2278. 2279. 2280. 2281. 2282. 2283. 2284. 2285. 2286. 2287. 2288. 2289. 2290. 2291. 2292. 2293. 2294. 2295. 2296. 2297. 2298. 2299. 2300. 2301. 2302. 2303. 2304. 2305. 2306. 2307. 2308. 2309. 2310. 2311. 2312. 2313. 2314. 2315. 2316. 2317. 2318. 2319. 2320. 2321. 2322. 2323. 2324. 2325. 2326. 2327. 2328. 2329. 2330. 2331. 2332. 2333. 2334. 2335. 2336. 2337. 2338. 2339. 2340. 2341. 2342. 2343. 2344. 2345. 2346. 2347. 2348. 2349. 2350. 2351. 2352. 2353. 2354. 2355. 2356. 2357. 2358. 2359. 2360. 2361. 2362. 2363. 2364. 2365. 2366. 2367. 2368. 2369. 2370. 2371. 2372. 2373. 2374. 2375. 2376. 2377. 2378. 2379. 2380. 2381. 2382. 2383. 2384. 2385. 2386. 2387. 2388. 2389. 2390. 2391. 2392. 2393. 2394. 2395. 2396. 2397. 2398. 2399. 2400. 2401. 2402. 2403. 2404. 2405. 2406. 2407. 2408. 2409. 2410. 2411. 2412. 2413. 2414. 2415. 2416. 2417. 2418. 2419. 2420. 2421. 2422. 2423. 2424. 2425. 2426. 2427. 2428. 2429. 2430. 2431. 2432. 2433. 2434. 2435. 2436. 2437. 2438. 2439. 2440. 2441. 2442. 2443. 2444. 2445. 2446. 2447. 2448. 2449. 2450. 2451. 2452. 2453. 2454. 2455. 2456. 2457. 2458. 2459. 2460. 2461. 2462. 2463. 2464. 2465. 2466. 2467. 2468. 2469. 2470. 2471. 2472. 2473. 2474. 2475. 2476. 2477. 2478. 2479. 2480. 2481. 2482. 2483. 2484. 2485. 2486. 2487. 2488. 2489. 2490. 2491. 2492. 2493. 2494. 2495. 2496. 2497. 2498. 2499. 2500. 2501. 2502. 2503. 2504. 2505. 2506. 2507. 2508. 2509. 2510. 2511. 2512. 2513. 2514. 2515. 2516. 2517. 2518. 2519. 2520. 2521.

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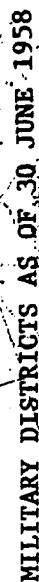
Tauric [33] in April 1956, and White Sea [43] in January 1958) reduced the number of military districts to 17. (See map 8.)

In January 1960, the decision was announced at a session of the Supreme Soviet to further reduce the manpower of the armed forces by 1.2 million men. Two months later, as part of that reduction, the Northern MD (24) was consolidated with the Leningrad MD (18). The shootdown of the American U-2 aircraft over the Soviet Union in May 1960, and the ensuing period of tension caused the Soviet leadership to cancel the proposed demobilization. Nonetheless, the streamlining of command continued as the Voronezh MD (41) was disbanded, reducing to fifteen the number of MDs existing in the Soviet Union. (See map 9.)

The Soviet-Chinese border conflicts in the late 1960's caused the Soviet military to re-assess its needs along the border. In August 1969, a new military district -- the Central Asian -- was created from the territory of the Turkestan MD. The new Turkestan MD faced Afghanistan and Iran, while the Central Asian faced Afghanistan and China. (See map 10.)

At present, the Soviet Union is divided into 16 military districts. One of the continuing goals of the Soviets is efficient military command of their territory. This is evidenced by the many changes that have occurred to meet the fluid conditions that have existed at various times since 1945. A new -- yet old -- command organization has reportedly appeared that indicates that the Soviets are not satisfied with the present MD configuration, especially along the border with China.

According to the Chinese "in 1979 the Soviet Union set up a new command in the Far East Theatre and has substantially expanded its naval forces there."<sup>6</sup> Recently, General of the Army V. I. Petrov was identified





U.S.S.R. Administrative Divisions. 1 January 1975

Center

Union number 15551

Autonomous republic (ASSR), oblast or kray  
Autonomous oblast (AO) or national okrug (NO)

**SECRET**

MILITARY DISTRICTS AS OF 30 JUNE 1960



as "Commander-in-Chief of the Troops of the Far East (and) Deputy Minister of Defense"<sup>7</sup> from 28 December 1978<sup>8</sup> to December 1980.<sup>9</sup> If these reports are true, it is likely that this theater command is similar to its predecessor organization from the late 40's/early 50's in terms of territory and units under its command. Extrapolating from what is known about that earlier command, it is possible to set out the hypothesis that: (1) the new theater command comprises the territory of the Transbaykal and Far East MDs and the waters off the eastern coast of the Soviet Union; and (2) that the commands within that area (Transbaykal MD, Far East MD, Pacific Ocean Fleet, and Amur River Flotilla) are subordinate to the Far East Forces.

If Petrov, as Far East Forces CINC, was simultaneously Deputy Minister of Defense, then his position within the Ministry of Defense as CINC in the present theater command is higher than Malinovskiy enjoyed when he was in the same job from 1947 to 1953.

If we posit the existence of the new theater command, the question arises -- when Petrov became Ground Forces CINC in December 1980, who succeeded him in the Far East? Although no replacement has been disclosed, it is possible to speculate as to who is the likely successor.

What qualifications should we expect of the Far East Forces CINC?

(1) He should be a General of the Army. When Petrov was CINC, he held that rank. Also the Transbaykal and Far East commanders -- both subordinate to the Far East Forces CINC -- are Generals of the Army; therefore the new CINC should hold that rank.

(2) He should be a full member of the CPSU Central Committee. The Transbaykal and Far East MD commanders are both CPSU CC members, therefore it is not unreasonable to expect the new CINC to be a full member as well.

The only General of the Army who is a full member of the CPSU Central Committee and is holding an undisclosed position is V. L. Govorov. Coincidentally, at the same time that Petrov left East, Govorov left his post as Moscow MD commander. Additionally, in late December 1980, Govorov was present at a party conference in the Far East MD.<sup>10</sup> Thus from this circumstantial evidence, it is possible to conclude that Govorov has replaced Petrov.

Why was the theater command created? Two possible answers are: (1) with the buildup of Soviet forces on the border with China another echelon of command was necessary to facilitate troop command and inter-service joint action in the Far East Theater; and (2) the tensions in the whole Far East deriving from the threat of hostilities between China and Vietnam (a Soviet client) in 1978 may have been a driving force for the creation of a Soviet theater command. What the state of readiness of the new command was at the outbreak of hostilities in early 1979 is difficult to say.

Given the existence of this command, certain questions arise that demand answers: (1) does the existence of the command foretell increased tension, or even worse, war in the Far East? (2) or is the command only a temporary measure like its predecessor of the 1940's?



### THE "FAST TRACK": THEN AND NOW

What are the essential qualities that an officer must possess in order to get ahead in the Soviet military? In his account of the first U.S. astronauts, Tom Wolfe names that combination of essential qualities:

A career in flying was like climbing one of those ancient Babylonian pyramids made up of a dizzy progression of steps and ledges, a ziggurat, a pyramid extraordinarily high and steep; and the idea was to prove at every foot of the way up that pyramid that you were one of the elected and anointed ones who had the right stuff (author's emphasis) and could move higher and higher and even -- ultimately, God willing one day -- that you might be able to join that special few at the very top, that elite who had the capacity to bring tears to men's eyes, the very Brotherhood of the Right Stuff itself.

In the Soviet military, what is the "right stuff" that leads to advancement? In a more turgid style, Colonel M. P. Skirido gives an inventory of personal qualities for a Soviet "great captain of history".

The commander of the army of a socialist state is a true son of the people and a champion of communist ideology and state policy among the troops. His personal qualities include: a cultivated intellect, flexibility of thought, the faculty of foresight, military erudition, organizational ability, readiness to rely upon the knowledge and experiences of subordinates, strength of will, valor, resoluteness, a willingness to take calculated risks, and preparedness to take full responsibility for his actions. A Soviet commander is also distinguished by special moral qualities: ideological conviction, political maturity, love of Motherland, ability to identify with the troops, ability to penetrate into the soldier's heart and inspire him to heroic deeds, and, finally, justness, integrity, and modesty.

The aforementioned qualities should not be separated from one another; they constitute a unified whole. If a military leader is strong-willed, courageous and capable of making decisions but lacks a cultivated intellect, then his actions will inevitably lead to errors fraught with serious consequences.

Conversely, if he is capable of deep theoretical thought, but lacks a strong will, courage and decisiveness, then he is no more likely to succeed. This is why we say that a military leader who successfully fulfills the complex function of leading his troops in an armed struggle is a gifted, talented commander. (Author's emphasis)<sup>12</sup>

Colonel Skirido fails to mention the most important "quality" -- that of knowing the right people. One need only to look at the relationships between N. S. Khrushchev, L. I. Brezhnev, R. Ya. Malinovskiy, A. A. Grechko, M. V. Zakharov, and S. G. Gorshkov during World War II to understand the subsequent elevation of Malinovskiy and Grechko to Minister of Defense (in 1957 and 1967 respectively) and Zakharov to Chief of the General Staff in 1960 and Gorshkov to Navy CINC in 1956.

Part of knowing the right people is belonging to the family of a successful military commander. The two most conspicuous examples -- assuredly competent in their own right, but helped along by the family name and contacts -- are: General of the Army V. L. Govorov\* and General-Colonel V. K. Meretskov.+

The level of commander that Skirido is referring to (POLKOVODETS) is best translated as "great captain of history". He cites as examples, "Julius Caesar, Alexander the Great, Napoleon, Alexander Nevskiy, Peter the Great, A. V. Suvorov, and M. I. Kutuzov."<sup>13</sup> A. M. Vasilevskiy lowers the threshold of the concept of a POLKOVODETS to include "G. K. Zhukov,

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\* Until late 1980, Moscow MD commander, he is the son of Marshal L. A. Govorov, who was commander of the Leningrad Front (June 1942 - July 1945) and at the time of his death in March, 1955, CINC National Air Defense Forces and Deputy USSR Minister of Defense. Although the younger Govorov's new job has not been disclosed, his promotion from candidate member to full member of the CPSU Central Committee evinces that his career is still headed upward.

+ Since late 1980, the commander of the North Caucasus MD, he is the son of the late Marshal K. A. Meretskov, who during the war was a front commander and in the post-war period successively commanded four MDs. The younger Meretskov has not yet been selected to the Central Committee.

I.S. Konev, K. K. Rokossovskiy, N. F. Vatutin, R. Ya. Malinovskiy, L. A. Govorov, S. K. Timoshenko and many others."<sup>14</sup> Vasilevskiy himself could probably be included in this second group of military commanders of which three became Soviet defense ministers (Vasilevskiy, Zhukov, and Malinovskiy) and the rest rose to at least deputy minister level.

What career paths did these men follow to reach the top? Which military districts did they command? Which MDs did their successors command? Has the "fast track" remained the same?

It may be misleading to speak in terms of the fast track, for the emphasis is then put on the jobs that lead to higher and more responsible positions. The true function of the fast track is to show which jobs are given to officers who have the right stuff; that is, the best and "almost-best" officers are put in the most critical jobs. During Stalin's reign, what constituted the right stuff -- all the basic ingredients -- was different from what it was under Khrushchev or under Brezhnev. For example, Zhukov had it in 1945, but not in 1946 when he was pushed off the Pyramid of the Right Stuff. He fell, landing on a lower level however, and began the trek back up the ziggurat displaying more and more of the right stuff until finally in 1955, he reached the top of the pyramid as Minister of Defense.

#### THEN. . .

The three military men who became defense ministers after the second world war were all combined-arms officers, and at one time in their careers, all were Ground Forces (GF) CINCs. Their career paths looked like this:

# MINISTER OF DEFENSE

G. K. Zhukov	GF CINC	Odessa MD commander	Ural MD commander	First Deputy Defense Minister Defense Minister	
R. Ya. Malinovskiy	Transbaykal- Amur MD commander	Far East Forces CINC	Far East MD commander	GF CINC	Defense Minister
A. A. Grechko	Kiev MD commander	GSFG CINC	GF CINC	WPF CINC*	Defense Minister

\* WPF = Warsaw Pact Forces

Four men have been Warsaw Pact Forces CINCs. Two of the four were former Ground Forces CINCs; and three of them were former GSFG CINCs and Kiev MD commanders. Their careers are shown on the following chart.

## WARSAW PACT FORCES (WPF) Commander-in-Chief

I. S. Konev	GF CINC	Soviet Army Chief Inspector	Carpathian MD commander	GF CINC	WPF CINC	
A.A. Grechko		Kiev MD commander	GSFG CINC	GF CINC	WPF CINC	Defense Minister
I. I. Yakubovskiy	First Deputy GSFG CINC	GSFG CINC	Kiev MD commander		WPF CINC	
V. G. Kulikov		Kiev MD commander	GSFG CINC	General Staff Chief	WPF CINC	

The premium on command experience in East European countries is obvious.

What is lost from sight, perhaps, is the command time of these officers in the Soviet Ukraine, either in the Carpathian or Kiev Military Districts.

The fast track for the job of Chief of the General Staff is not at all obvious. Excluding officers without post-war MD command time before they became General Staff Chiefs (A. M. Vasilevskiy, A. I. Antonov, and S. M. Shtemenko) leaves five commanders -- three of whom at one time in their careers were GSFG CINCs. Their careers are depicted on the following chart.

GENERAL STAFF CHIEFS

V. D. Sokolovskiy	Deputy GSFG CINC	GSFG CINC	First Deputy Defense Minister	GS Chief	General Inspector
M. V. Zakharov	GSFG CINC	GS Chief	GS Academy Chief	GS Chief	
S. S. Biryuzov	First Deputy PVO CINC	PVO CINC	SRF CINC	GS Chief	
V. G. Kulikov	Army commander	Kiev MD commander	GSFG CINC	GS Chief	WPF CINC
N. V. Ogarkov	Volga MD commander	First Deputy GS Chief	Deputy Defense Minister	GS Chief	

The job that is key to advancement to any of the above positions appears to be Ground Forces CINC. Seven men have held the job since the war; four went on to more responsible jobs -- three to become Minister of Defense:

# GROUND FORCES COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF

G. K. Zhukov*	First Deputy Supreme CINC	GSFG CINC	GF CINC	Odessa MD commander	Ural MD commander
I. S. Konev*	Chief Inspector	Carpathian MD commander	GF CINC	WPF CINC	General Inspector
R. Ya. Malinovskiy	Far East Forces CINC	Far East MD commander	GF CINC	Defense Minister	
A. A. Grechko	Kiev MD commander	GSFG CINC	GF CINC	WPF CINC	Defense Minister
V. I. Chuykov	GSFG CINC	Kiev MD commander	GF CINC	Civil Defense Chief	General Inspector
I. G. Pavlovskiy	Volga MD commander	Far East MD commander	GF CINC		
V. I. Petrov+	First Deputy GF CINC	Far East Forces CINC	GF CINC		

\* See the remainder of their careers in earlier charts.

+ Petrov was Far East MD commander before he was First Deputy GF CINC.

One -- Chuykov -- became chief of Civil Defense in 1961 while he also was Ground Forces CINC. When the latter position was abolished, he became Civil Defense Chief full-time. Pavlovskiy, who was replaced by Petrov in December 1980, has not been identified in a new position. Since he turned 72 years old in 1981, there is a good chance that he became an Inspector-Advisor in the General Inspectorate of the Ministry of Defense.

The Ground Forces CINC slot is the one that most MD commanders hope to attain in order to move on to more responsible jobs. The CINC job, however, as noted above, has a tendency to disappear. On 25 February 1950, the Armed Forces Ministry was split into the Navy Ministry and the War Ministry. Probably as a result of this reorganization the positions of Ground Forces CINC, First Deputy CINC and Chief of Main Staff were abolished. Ten days after Stalin's death on 5 March 1953, the two ministries were reunited into a single Ministry of Defense. Subsequent reorganizations required the shifting of major military commanders; MDs were consolidated; officers were promoted, but it wasn't until early 1955 (probably in March) that the top Ground Forces positions were recreated and Konev was returned to his post as CINC.

Nine years later in August 1964, at least the top three Ground Forces positions were abolished once again. Two months later, Khrushchev was deposed, accused of "phrase-mongering, (building a) personality cult and hasty decisions".<sup>15</sup> If the abolition of Chuykov's job as Ground Forces CINC was one of Khrushchev's hasty decisions, it was not rectified until April 1967, when I. G. Pavlovskiy became a deputy minister of defense. His responsibility was presumably to recreate the Ground Forces high command of which he became head in November 1967.

Despite the fact that the job has disappeared from time to time, it is still a key stepping stone to more important jobs. Because that is true, it is, then, worthwhile to see if a "fast track" exists that leads to the top Ground Forces job.

Examination of the Ground Forces CINCs careers shows that: (1) three (Zhukov, Grechko, and Chuykov) of the seven were GSFG CINCs before becoming Ground Forces CINCs -- two held the GSFG post when they were

designated for Ground Forces CINC; (2) two (Grechko and Chuykov) of the three with GSFG command experience were commanders of the Kiev MD; (3) and three (Malinovskiy, Pavlovskiy, and Petrov) of the seven followed the route from Far East commander (and except for Petrov, who was probably Far East Forces CINC -- a position superior to the Far East MD) directly to become Ground Forces CINC. Presented below are the careers of those who have served in the top positions of the GSFG, Kiev and Far East MDs.



# GROUP OF SOVIET FORCES (GSFG) COMMANDERS-IN-CHIEF

G. K. Zhukov	First Deputy Supreme CINC	GSFG CINC	Odessa MD commander	Ural MD commander	First Deputy Defense Minister
V. D. Sokolovskiy	Deputy GSFG CINC	GSFG CINC	First Deputy Defense Minister	General Staff Chief	General Inspector
V. I. Chuykov	First Deputy GSFG CINC	GSFG CINC	Kiev MD commander	GF CINC	General Inspector
A. A. Grechko	Kiev MD commander	GSFG CINC	GF CINC	WPF CINC	Defense Minister
M. V. Zakharov	Leningrad MD commander	GSFG CINC	General Staff Chief	General Staff Academy Chief	General Staff Chief
I. I. Yakubovskiy	First Deputy GSFG CINC	GSFG CINC*	First Deputy GSFG CINC	GSFG CINC	Kiev MD commander WPF CINC
I. S. Konev	General Inspector	GSFG CINC*	General Inspector		
P. K. Koshevoy	Kiev MD commander	GSFG CINC	General Inspector		
V. G. Kulikov	Kiev MD commander	GSFG CINC	General Staff Chief	WPF CINC	
S. K. Kurkotkin	Transcaucasus MD commander	GSFG CINC	Rear Services Chief		
Ye. F. Ivanovskiy	Moscow MD commander	GSFG CINC	Belorussian MD commander		
M. M. Zaytsev	Belorussian MD commander	GSFG CINC			

\* In August 1961, during the Berlin crisis, Yakubovskiy was reduced to First Deputy GSFG CINC so that Marshal I. S. Konev, a World War II hero, could be put in charge of the Soviet troops facing Allied troops

The following facts concerning the GSFG CINCs are worth noting:

- (1) since 1945, 12 officers have been GSFG CINCs;
- (2) eight of these 12 have gone on to jobs at the deputy-minister level;
- (3) six have advanced to first-deputy-minister status;
- (4) two have become defense ministers.
- (5) Before becoming GSFG CINC, four officers were First Deputy GSFG CINCs and a fifth a Deputy GSFG CINC. Promotion from within the command has occurred in almost half of these cases.
- (6) Five GSFG CINCs were Kiev MD commanders; on two occasions the commanders of these two commands have succeeded each other. In probably the month of May 1953, GSFG CINC Chuykov and Kiev MD commander Grechko replaced each other; and in January 1965, GSFG CINC Yakubovskiy and Kiev MD commander Koshevoy exchanged jobs.

The most recent change in command concerning the GSFG CINC involved a double succession like those which earlier involved the Kiev MD. On 4 December 1980, GSFG CINC Ivanovskiy and Belorussian MD commander Zaytsev replaced each other. Certain western analysts have stated that Ivanovskiy's move to the Belorussian MD was no promotion and have implied that he is being eased into retirement.<sup>16</sup> In the two earlier instances, the two officers who were transferred to the Kiev MD -- at first glance, a demotion -- went on to become Ground Forces CINC (Chuykov) and Warsaw Pact Forces CINC (Yakubovskiy). The same pattern may hold true for Ivanovskiy.

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\* (cont. from p. 27) in Germany. The move was designed to intimidate the West with Konev's credentials as one of the Soviet marshals who led the final advance on Berlin in 1945. After the furor died down, Konev was quietly returned to the General Inspectorate in April 1962 and Yakubovskiy resumed his post.

(7) Finally, none of the GSFG CINCs ever served as Far East MD commander.

As can be seen by reviewing the careers of the Kiev MD commanders, their paths are intertwined with the careers of the GSFG CINCs. Therefore the remarks concerning the GSFG also apply to the Kiev MD.

#### KIEV MILITARY DISTRICT COMMANDERS

A. A. Grechko			Kiev MD commander	GSFG CINC	GF CINC	WPF CIN
V. I. Chuykov		GSFG CINC	Kiev MD commander	GF CINC	General Inspector	
I. I. Yakubovskiy	First Deputy GSFG CINC	GSFG CINC	Kiev MD commander	WPF CINC		
V. G. Kulikov		Army Commander	Kiev MD commander	GSFG CINC	General Staff Chief	WPF CIN
G. I. Salmanov			Kiev MD commander	GF Deputy CINC for Combat Training	Trans- baykal MD commander	
I. A. Gerasimov	First Deputy Carpathian MD commander	Central Group of Forces commander	Kiev MD commander			

# FAR EAST MILITARY DISTRICT (FEMD) COMMANDERS

M. A. Purkayev		FEMD commander	First Deputy Far East Forces CINC	Higher Education Instituti- ons Chief, MOD	
N. I. Krylov		FEMD commander	First Deputy FEMD commander	Ural MD commander	Leningrad* MD commander
R. Ya. Malinovskiy	Far East Forces CINC	FEMD commander	GF CINC	Defense Minister	
V. A. Pen'kovskiy	FEMD Chief of Staff	FEMD commander	Belorussian MD commander	Deputy Defense Minister for Combat Training	General Inspector
Ya. G. Kreyzer	Ural MD commander	FEMD commander	Chief, "Vystrel" Courses	General Inspector	
I. G. Pavlovskiy	Volga MD commander	FEMD commander	GF CINC		
O. A. Losik	First Deputy FEMD commander	FEMD commander	Chief, Armored Academy		
V. F. Tolubko	Siberian MD commander	FEMD commander	SRF CINC		
V. I. Petrov	FEMD Chief of Staff	FEMD commander	First Deputy GF CINC	Far East Forces CINC	GF CINC
I. M. Tret'yak	Belorussian MD commander	FEMD commander			

\* Krylov's distinguished career continued in the following positions:  
Moscow MD commander and then SRF CINC.

The careers of the Far East MD commanders have followed different paths from those in the GSFG or Kiev MD, yet 60% of the former FEMD commanders reached deputy-minister-level positions or higher. The MD has "produced" one Minister of Defense, one Deputy Minister for Combat Training, two Strategic Rocket Forces CINCs and two Ground Forces CINCs. Three CINCs have come through the Far East MD since 1967.

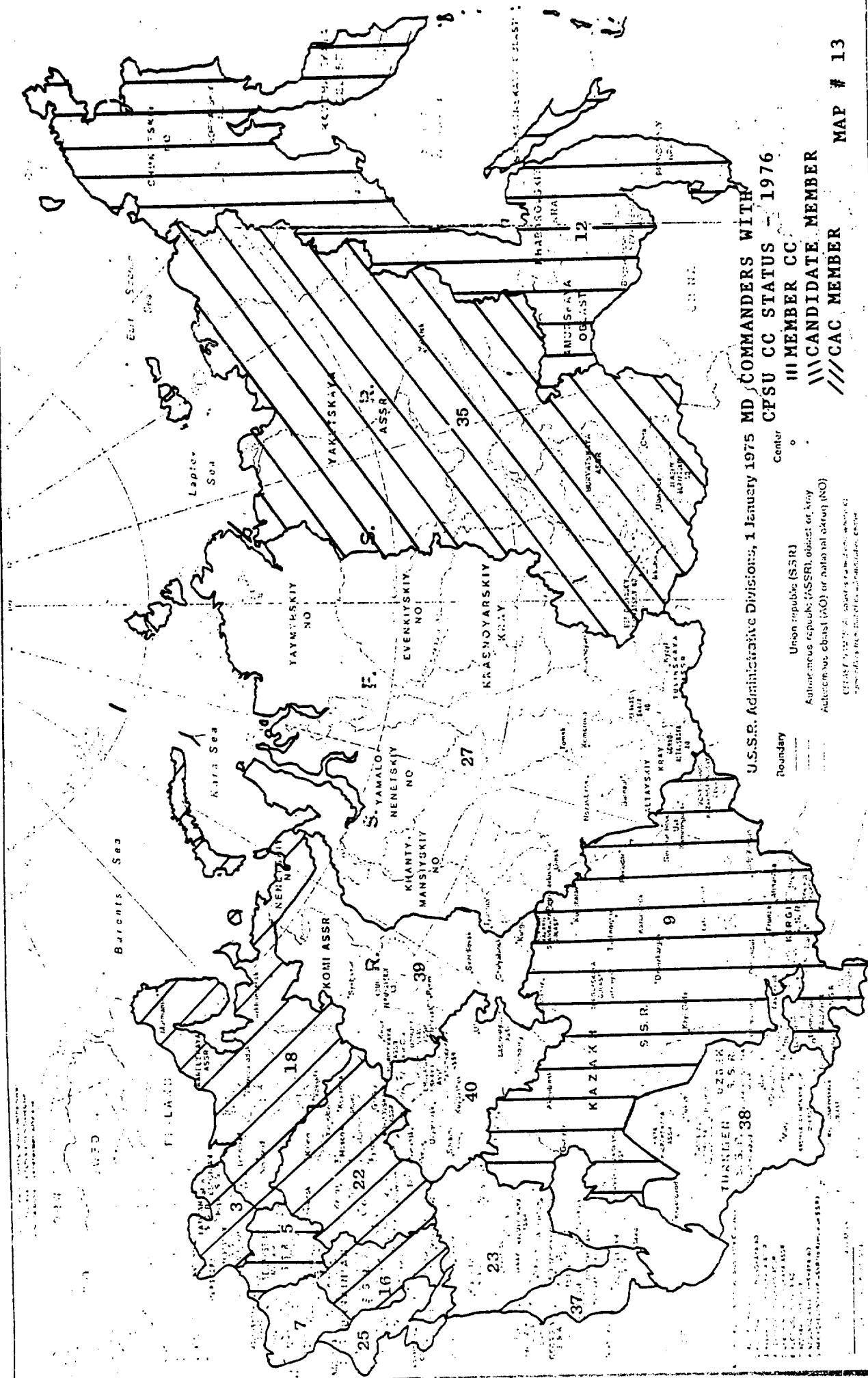
. . . AND NOW

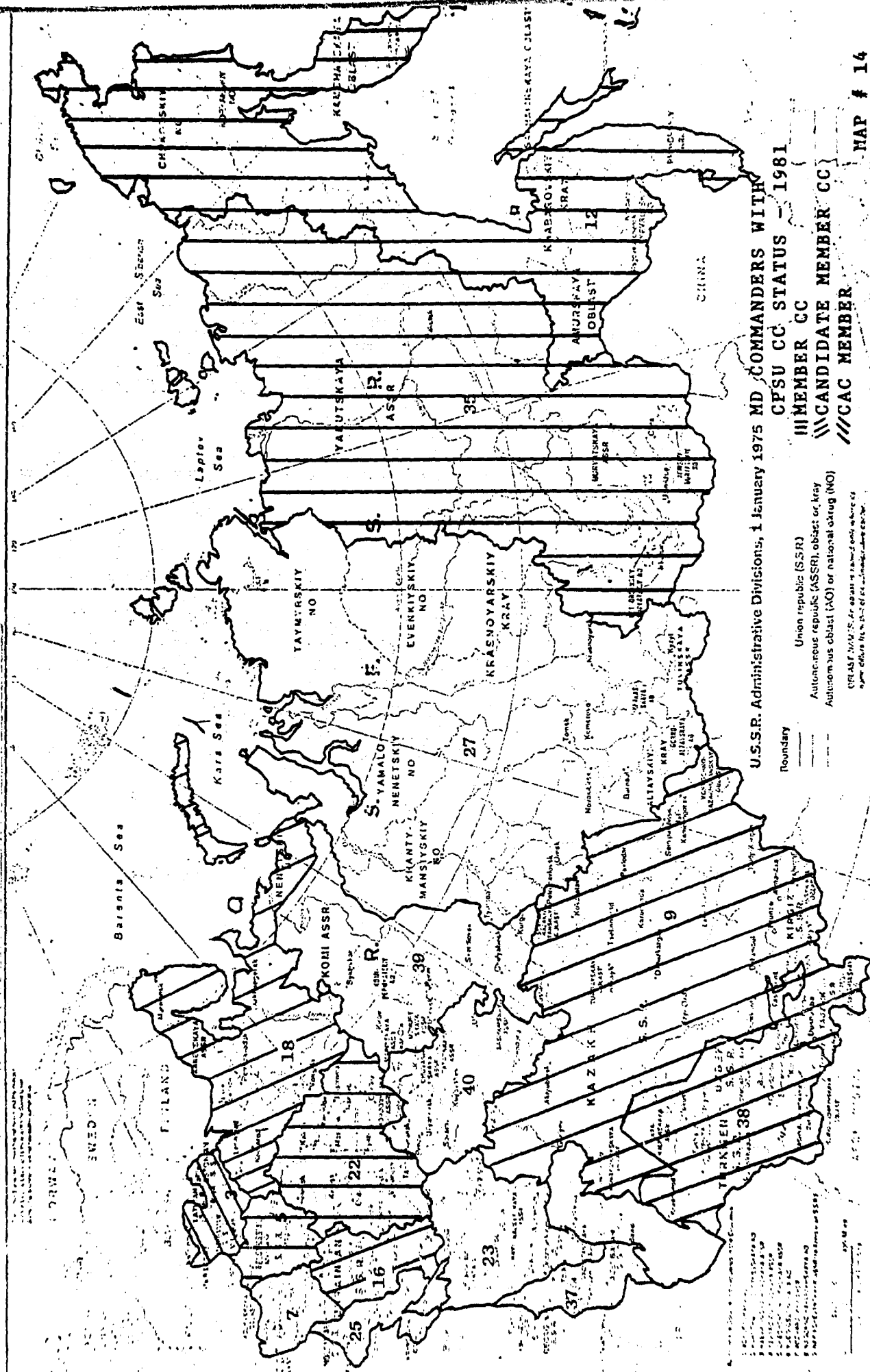
Since the late 1960's the fast track has moved away from the European USSR where, until then, it had been predominant. One indication that the track has changed its path is the matter of rank. Since the time of the tensions and incidents along the Sino-Soviet border in the late 1960's, commanders of MDs that are directly on the border with China have all been senior officers having the rank of General of the Army. The grade "inflation" occurred in the Central Asian MD (February 1968), Transbaykal MD (February 1969) and Far East MD (April 1970). Since approximately the same time, the MD commanders in other, less vital, areas have held the rank of General-Colonel instead of the higher General of the Army rank that their predecessors held. The grade "deflation" occurred in: Leningrad (1967), Moscow (from 1968 - 1977 and from 1980), North Caucasus, Transcaucasus (1969), and Turkestan (1969) MDs.

Another indication that the fast track has changed concerns the membership on the CPSU Central Committee (CC) by military commanders. The majority of MD commanders who are members or candidates of the CPSU CC are from MDs that border China. (See Appendix IV for a list of military men in the CPSU CC.) By comparing maps 13 and 14, one can see the following changes: (1) the Baltic MD commander, who in 1976 was a candidate member CC CPSU, in 1981 is a member of the Central Auditing Commission

(CAC) -- a reduction in political rank of one level; (2) the Transbaykal MD commander in 1976 was a CAC member, and in 1981 a CPSU CC member -- an increase in rank of two levels; (3) the Turkestan MD commander, who in 1976 had no Central Committee status, in 1981 is a candidate member of the CPSU CC -- an increase in rank of two levels. These changes indicate that people of greater political reliability and military ability in the eyes of the Party leadership have been placed in critical MD commands along the southern border of the Soviet Union. Now the fast track has divided. Part travels through the western border districts, part through the southern border districts.

In summary, the fast track ran through the Group of Soviet Forces in Germany, Kiev MD and immediately after the war, through the Far East MD to the Ground Force CINC position and from there to even higher positions until late 1969. Since then a number of factors (increased rank of MD commanders on the Chinese border, decreased rank of commanders in less vital MDs, greater political rank of commanders of MDs on the southern border, the reported creation of a theater command in the Far East) indicate that the Soviet Union is re-orienting its forces so that they face the Chinese with a more reliable, more efficient structure of highly-qualified, capable commanders.







## APPENDIX I

### Note:

All boundaries named in this paper refer to boundaries as they were drawn at the time of the organizational action affecting the military district.

The information in this appendix is drawn exclusively from the Soviet Military Encyclopedia. If you wish to check the source material for information concerning a military district, look under the entry for that MD. Some MDs -- particularly those that no longer exist -- do not have a separate listing. In those cases, determine which MD absorbed the MD not listed under its own heading and look in the entry for that MD.



**MILITARY  
DISTRICTS**

44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 7576 77 78 79 80 81 82

SIBERIAN

WEST  
SIBERIAN

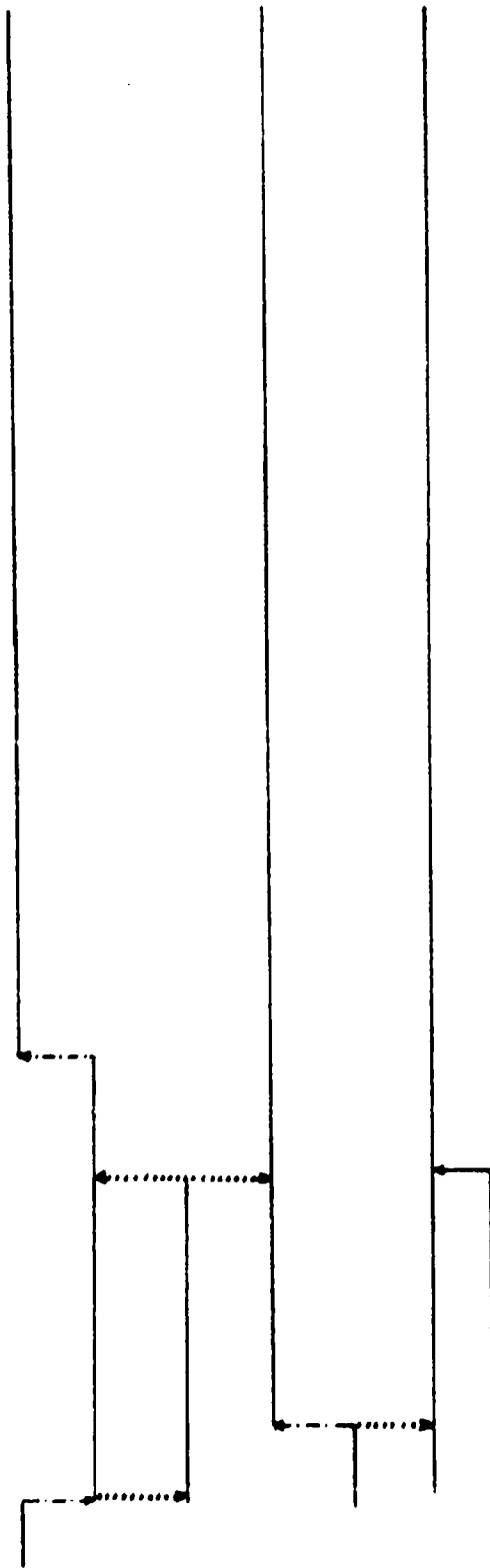
EAST  
SIBERIAN

TRANSBAYKAL

TRANSBAYKAL-  
AMUR

FAR EAST

MARITIME



NOTE: The direction and position of the arrowhead indicate:

- 1) the MD to which another MD was joined; —————>
- 2) the MD that received territory formerly part of another MD; .....>
- 3) the new name received by an MD. - - - - ->

The Siberian MD (27) was formed on 3 December 1919 by a decree of the Siberian Revolutionary Committee. In 1922 the MD (which had already been renamed twice) moved its headquarters from Omsk to what is now Novosibirsk. During the Second World War its territory comprised the Tyumen', Tomsk, Omsk, Novosibirsk, Kemerovo, Irkutsk oblasts, Krasnoyarsk and Altay Provinces, and Yakutsk ASSR. In October 1944 the Tuva Autonomous Oblast was added to the MD.

On 9 July 1945 the MD was renamed the West Siberian MD (42). In September the Krasnoyarsk Province and Tuva AO were transferred to what by 1 October had become the East Siberian MD (11). The Irkutsk oblast and Yakutsk ASSR were also included in the MD's area of responsibility. MD headquarters, established on the field command of the 50th Army, were located in Irkutsk.

In April-May 1953 the East Siberian MD was disbanded, its headquarters disestablished, and its troops and territory were split up. The Krasnoyarsk Province and Tuva AO became part of the West Siberian MD; the Yakutsk ASSR and Irkutsk oblast were transferred to the Transbaykal MD (35). The last significant change occurred in 1956 when the West Siberian MD was renamed the Siberian MD.

The Maritime MD (20) was formed in September 1945, probably by the same directive by which the Far East MD was established. Maritime MD headquarters, based on the field command of the First Far East Front, were situated in Voroshilovsk (now Ussurisk). The MD comprised all the Maritime Province except for the area north of the Samarga river. MD personnel included not only troops within the MD, but also Soviet units stationed in North Korea and on the Kwangtung peninsula.

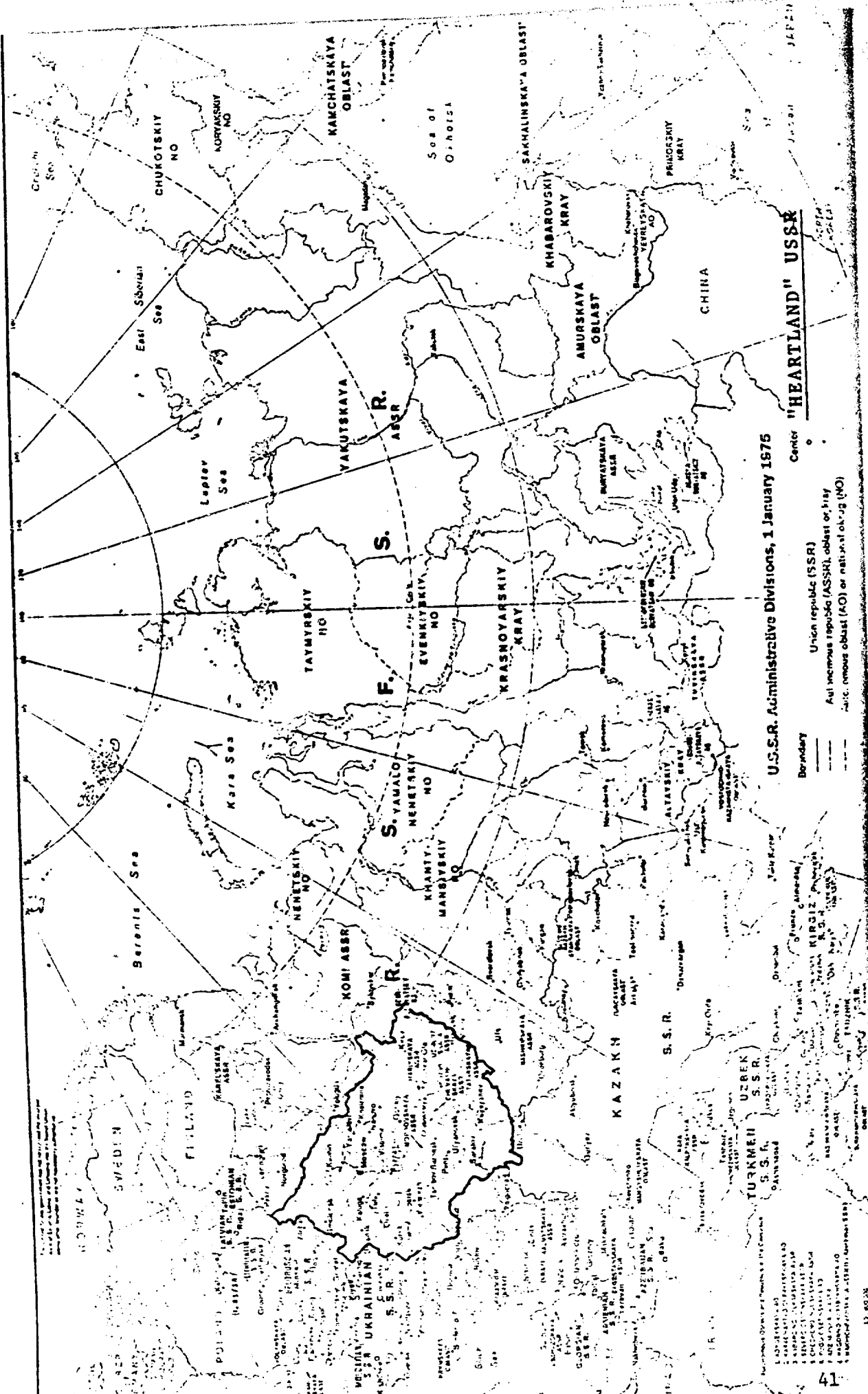
The Far East MD (12) was created by a directive of the Stavka of the Soviet Supreme High Command (VGK) on 10 September 1945. Its headquarters, formed from the field command of the Second Far East Front, were located on Sakhalin Island in the city of Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk. Its territory comprised Kamchatka and Sakhalin oblasts, the Kurile Islands, and part of the Maritime Province north of the Samarga river. According to the Soviet Military Encyclopedia, the territory in the Lower Amur oblast eastward from Konsomolsk-na-Amure along the Amur river (see map 3) was under the administrations of the Far East and the Transbaykal-Amur MDs simultaneously. During 1946 the Far East MD grew as several regions of the Magadan oblast and the remaining areas of the Lower Amur oblast were removed from the jurisdiction of the Transbaykal-Amur MD.

On 23 April 1953, the Minister of Defense ordered that the Far East MD be reorganized. Within a month the Maritime MD had been disbanded and its troops and territory absorbed by the Far East MD. The reorganized MD was now headquartered in Khabarovsk and staffed by the command of the Far East Forces (dissolved by the 23 April order). The MD comprised the Amur, Kamchatka, Sakhalin oblasts, Maritime and Khabarovsk Provinces and the Jewish AO. The boundaries of the MD have not changed since 1953.

In October 1945 the Transbaykal-Amur MD (36) was created. Its headquarters, formed from the field command of the Transbaykal Front, were situated in Khabarovsk. Its territory included the Buryat-Mongolian ASSR, Chita oblast, and part of Khabarovsk Province (without Kamchatka and Sakhalin oblasts) and possibly part of the Lower Amur oblast eastward along the Amur river from Komsomolsk-na-Amure.

In May 1947 the Transbaykal-Amur MD was renamed the Transbaykal MD (35). The newly-renamed MD had responsibility only for the Chita oblast and the Buryat-Mongolian ASSR. Although the MD headquarters remained in Chita, the headquarters staff did not. The MD commander, Marshal R. Ya. Malinovskiy became Commander-in-Chief of the Far East Forces and his staff became the Far East Forces staff. The new Transbaykal MD headquarters staff was formed from the field command of the 36th Army.

In 1953 the Transbaykal MD assumed its present configuration: the Chita oblast was reduced in size by half -- the eastern portion, renamed the Amur oblast, became part of the Far East MD; and the Yakutsk ASSR and the Irkutsk oblast from the East Siberian MD became part of the Transbaykal MD.



U.S.S.R. Administrative Divisions, 1 January 1976

Center "HEARTLAND" USSR

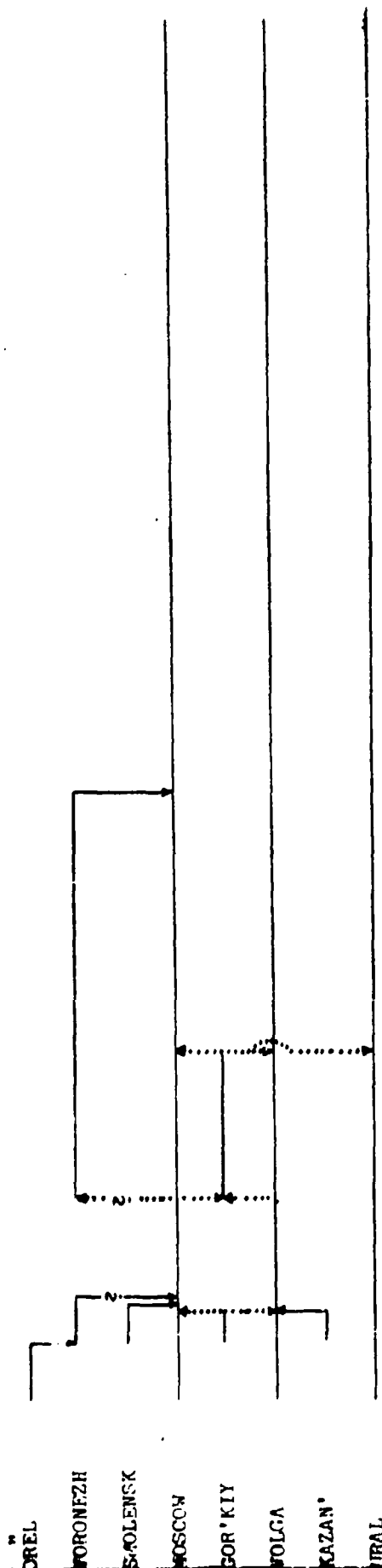
Union republic (USSR)  
 Autonomous republic (ASSR), oblast or krai  
 Autonomous oblast (AO) or national okrug (NO)

Boundary

1. U.S.S.R. Administrative Divisions, 1 January 1976  
 2. U.S.S.R. Administrative Divisions, 1 January 1976  
 3. U.S.S.R. Administrative Divisions, 1 January 1976  
 4. U.S.S.R. Administrative Divisions, 1 January 1976  
 5. U.S.S.R. Administrative Divisions, 1 January 1976  
 6. U.S.S.R. Administrative Divisions, 1 January 1976  
 7. U.S.S.R. Administrative Divisions, 1 January 1976  
 8. U.S.S.R. Administrative Divisions, 1 January 1976  
 9. U.S.S.R. Administrative Divisions, 1 January 1976  
 10. U.S.S.R. Administrative Divisions, 1 January 1976

# MILITARY DISTRICTS

44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 8



NOTE: The direction and position of the arrowhead indicates:

- 1) the MD to which another MD was joined; —————→
- 2) the MD that received territory formerly part of another MD; .....→
- 3) the new name received by an MD; - - - - -→
- 4) uncertainty concerning the disposition of territory. — 2 →  
.....→



In August 1943, the Orel MD (26) was formed with its headquarters in Voronezh. Its territory included Kursk and Orel oblasts, taken from the Moscow MD and Voronezh oblast, taken from the Volga MD. On 30 October 1943, Tambov oblast was added and in July 1944, the Bryansk oblast became part of the MD.

On 9 July 1945, the Orel MD was renamed the Voronezh MD (41). By the following month, the new headquarters had been formed from the staffs of the Orel MD and the 6th Army. In February 1946, the Voronezh MD became a territorial district; in August of the same year, it was disbanded. It is not certain if its troops and territory became part of the Moscow MD as they did after the MD was disbanded a second time fourteen years later, or if they were integrated into the Kiev MD.

In June 1949, the Voronezh MD was formed once more on its old territory. In 1953, probably in May, when the Gor'kiy MD was disbanded and the Moscow MD underwent border changes, three oblasts were added to the MD: Lipetsk, Belgorod and Balashov (in 1956, the Balashov oblast was integrated into the Saratov oblast and became part of the Volga MD). In August 1960, the MD was disbanded and its territory became part of the Moscow MD.

The Smolensk MD (28) was formed on 9 July 1945 with its headquarters located in Smolensk. Its territory included Velikiye Luki, Kaluga, and Smolensk oblasts -- all taken from the Moscow MD. In February 1946, it became a territorial district. In July it was disbanded and its troops and territory became part of the Moscow MD.

The Gor'kiy MD (13), formed in July 1945, was headquartered in the city of Gor'kiy. Its territory comprised Gor'kiy, Ivanovo, Kostroma oblasts and the Mordovian ASSR. In February 1946 it became a territorial

district and in May was disbanded. The three oblasts were transferred to the Moscow MD while the Mordovian ASSR became part of the Volga MD.

In June 1949 the MD was recreated on its former territory and on the Kirov oblast and Mary and Chuvash ASSRs. In May 1953 the MD was disbanded again. The Kirov oblast was transferred to the Ural MD (39); the Mary and Chuvash ASSRs became part of the Volga MD; and the Gor'kiy, Kostroma, and Ivanovo oblasts were integrated into the Moscow MD.

The Moscow MD (22), created on 4 May 1918 by a decree of the Soviet of Peoples' Commissars, was headquartered in the city of Moscow. During World War II, even during the worst days of the winter of 1941 when the Germans were nearing the Moscow city gates, the MD was never disbanded as other threatened and overrun MDs were. The MD underwent several postwar boundary changes, which have been recounted in the descriptions of the Smolensk, Voronezh, and Gor'kiy MDs. Today the MD comprises Moscow City, Belgorod, Bryansk, Vladimir, Voronezh, Gor'kiy, Ivanovo, Kalinin, Kaluga, Kostroma, Kursk, Lipetsk, Moscow, Orel, Ryazan', Smolensk, Tambov, Tula, and Yaroslavl' oblasts.

The Kazan' MD (14), whose headquarters were formed in Kazan' from the 48th Army, was created in August 1945. Its territory included Kirov oblast, the Tatar, Udmurt, Mary, and Chuvash ASSRs. In February 1946, it became a territorial district and was disbanded three months later. Its territory and troops became part of the Volga MD.

The Volga MD (40) was created on 4 May 1918. During World War II the MD served as a training area for troops and reserves before they were sent to the front. In May 1946, upon the dissolution of the Gor'kiy and Kazan' MDs, their territory was incorporated into the Volga MD. In June 1949 those regions that were previously in the Gor'kiy MD were

separated once more as the Gor'kiy MD was brought back into existence. In May 1953 the territory once again became part of the Volga MD, when the Gor'kiy MD was disbanded a second time. Today the MD, whose headquarters are in Kuybyshev, comprises Kuybyshev, Orenburg, Saratov, Ul'yanovsk and Penza oblasts and the Tatar, Bashkir, Mary, Mordovian, and Chuvash ASSRs.



## DISTRICTS

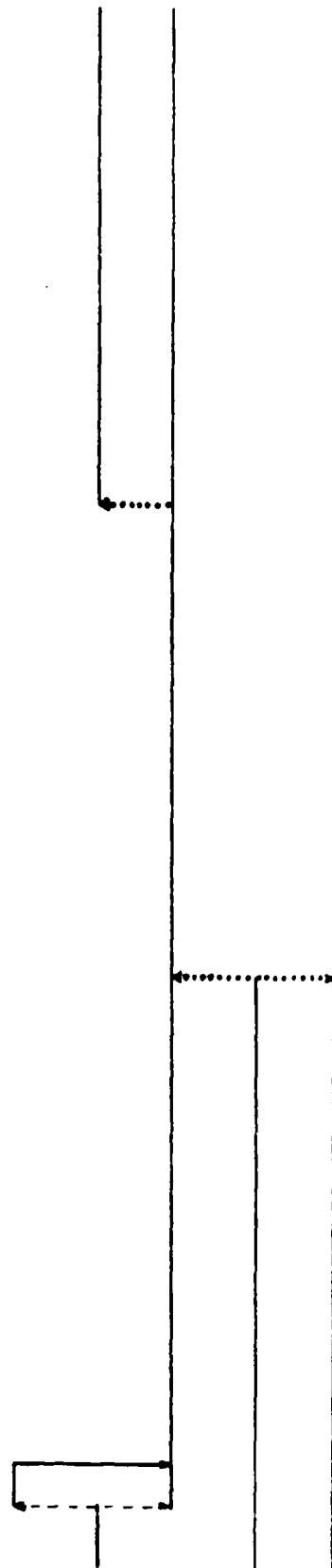
## STEPS

**CENTRAL  
ASIAN**

**TURKES'TAN**

**SOUTH  
URAL**

• **CLGA**



**NOTE: The direction and position of the arrowhead indicates:**

- 1) the MD to which another was joined; →
- 2) the MD that received territory formerly part of another MD. ....→

On 4 June 1926 the USSR Revolutionary Military Council (Revvoensovet) ordered that the Transcaucasus Front be renamed the Central Asian MD (9). During World War II many units and soyedinenie were formed and trained in the MD before being sent to fight the German army. After the war, on 9 July 1945 the Turkestan MD (38) and the Steppe MD (32) were created on the territory of the Central Asian MD. The Turkestan MD, consisting of the Turkmen, Uzbek, Tadzhik, and Kirgiz SSRs, located its headquarters (formerly the Central Asian MD headquarters) in Tashkent.

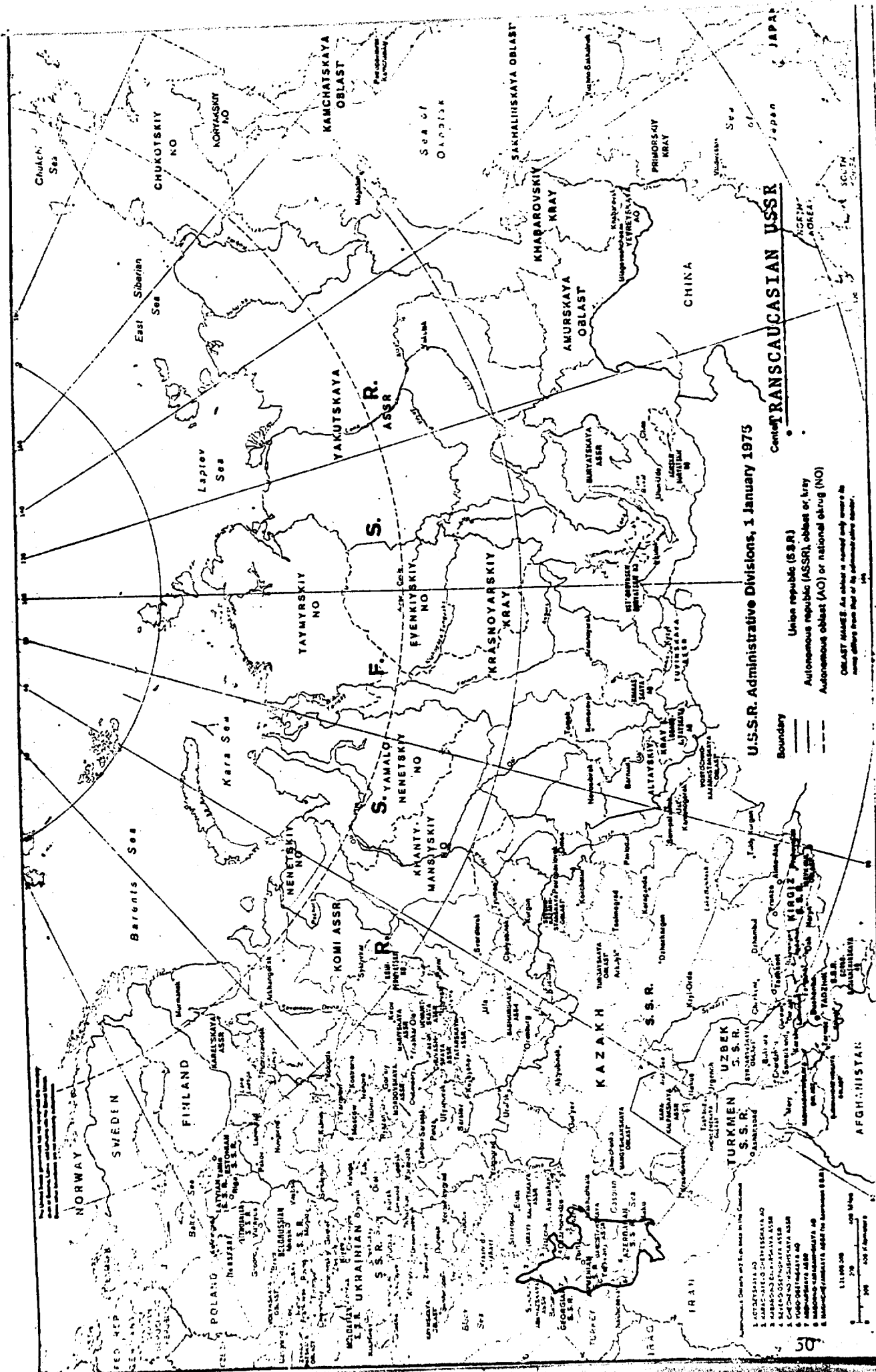
The Steppe MD headquarters, established on the field command of the 4th Shock Army, were set up in Alma-Ata. The MD comprised the Kazakhstan SSR without the three northwestern oblasts: Aktyubinsk, Gur'ev, and Western Kazakhstan. In February 1946, it became a territorial district. On 5 May 1946 the district was dissolved, its headquarters disestablished, and its troops and territory were integrated into the Turkestan MD.

Upon the dissolution of the South Ural MD on 15 January 1958, the MD received the three northwestern oblasts of the Kazakh SSR. In August 1969, probably in response to deteriorating relations with Soviet's giant Asian neighbor, the Turkestan MD was divided so that the area bordering China came under the new Central Asian MD. Its territory comprised the Kazakh, Kirgiz and Tadzhik SSRs, with headquarters in Alma-Ata. The Turkestan MD, headquartered still in Tashkent, retained responsibility for the Turkmen and Uzbek SSRs.

The South Ural MD (29) was formed on 26 November 1941. Its territory included the Chkalov (now Orenburg), Western Kazakhstan, Aktyubinsk, Gur'ev oblasts and the Bashkir ASSR. Its headquarters, formerly those of the Orel MD, were located at Chkalov. Like other rear area MDs, its

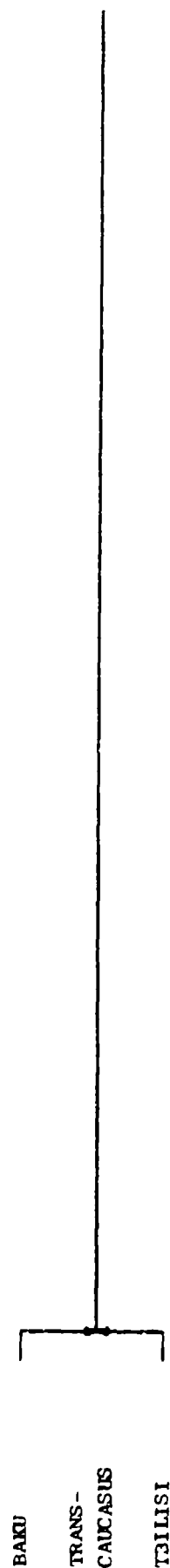
mission during the war was the organization, fitting out, and training of new units and soyedinenie for the front. Reserves were also deployed in the MD.

In connection with the move to consolidate MDs, on 15 January 1958 the South Ural MD was disbanded, its headquarters disestablished, and its troops and territory split up between the Volga MD (40) -- receiving Orenburg oblast and Bashkir ASSR -- and the Turkestan MD (Western Kazakhstan, Aktyubinsk, and Gur'ev oblasts).





MILITARY	
<u>DISTRICTS</u>	44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81

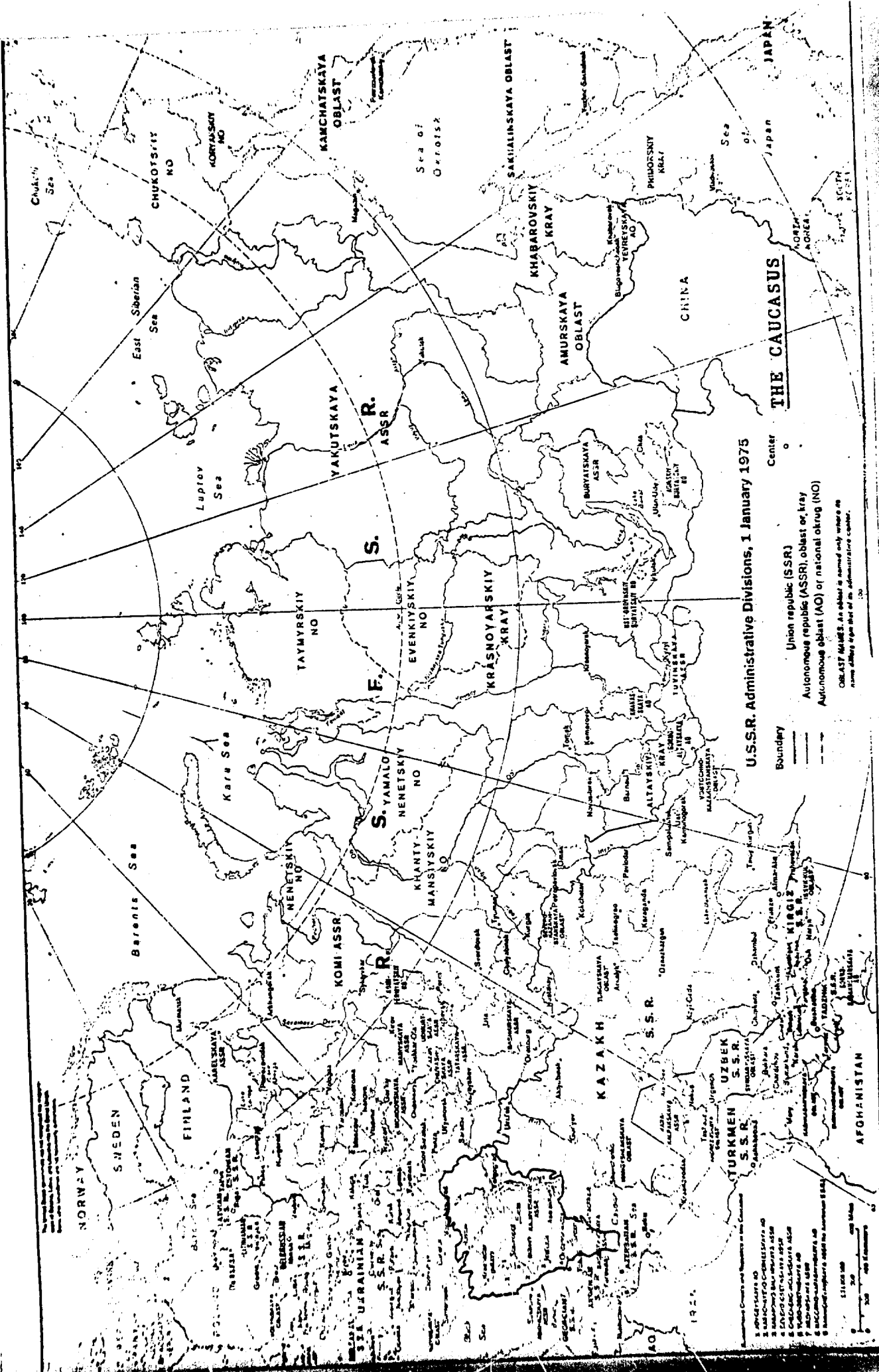


NOTE: The direction and position of the arrowhead indicates the MD to which another was joined. —→

In August 1945 two MDs were created from the Transcaucasus Front. The field command of the 69th Army served as the base for the new Baku MD (2) headquarters which were located in Baku. The MD included the Azerbaydzhan SSR and the Dagestan ASSR.

The Tbilisi MD (34) headquarters, formed from the field command of the Transcaucasus Front, were located in Tbilisi. The district was composed of the Georgian and Armenian SSRs.

In May 1946 the Baku and Tbilisi MDs were united to become the Transcaucasus MD (37) which comprised the Armenian, Azerbaydzhan, Georgian SSRs and the Dagestan and North Ossetian ASSRs. The Baku MD commander, General I. I. Maslennikov, became the Transcaucasus MD commander. The final boundary change occurred one month later when the Dagestan and North Ossetian ASSRs became part of the North Caucasus MD (23).



MILITARY

DISTRICTS

44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82

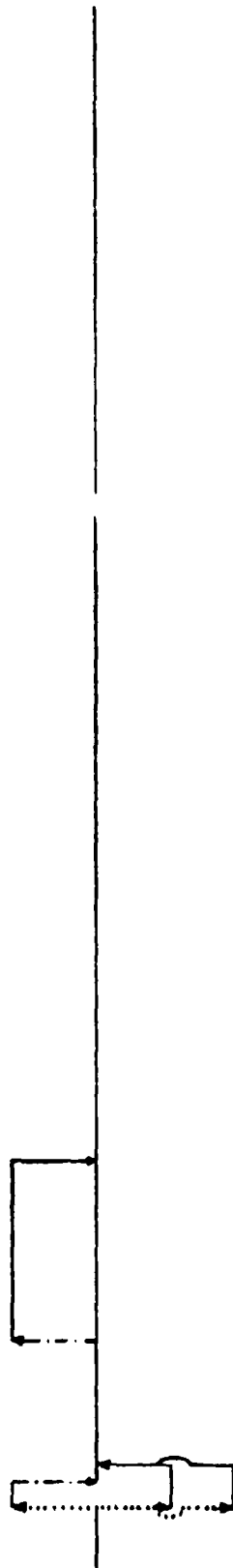
DN

DRTH

AUCASUS

UBAN

PAVROPOL'



NOTE: The direction and position of the arrowhead indicates:

- 1) the MD to which another MD was joined; —————>
- 2) the MD that received territory formerly part of another MD; .....>
- 3) the new name received by an MD. - - - - ->

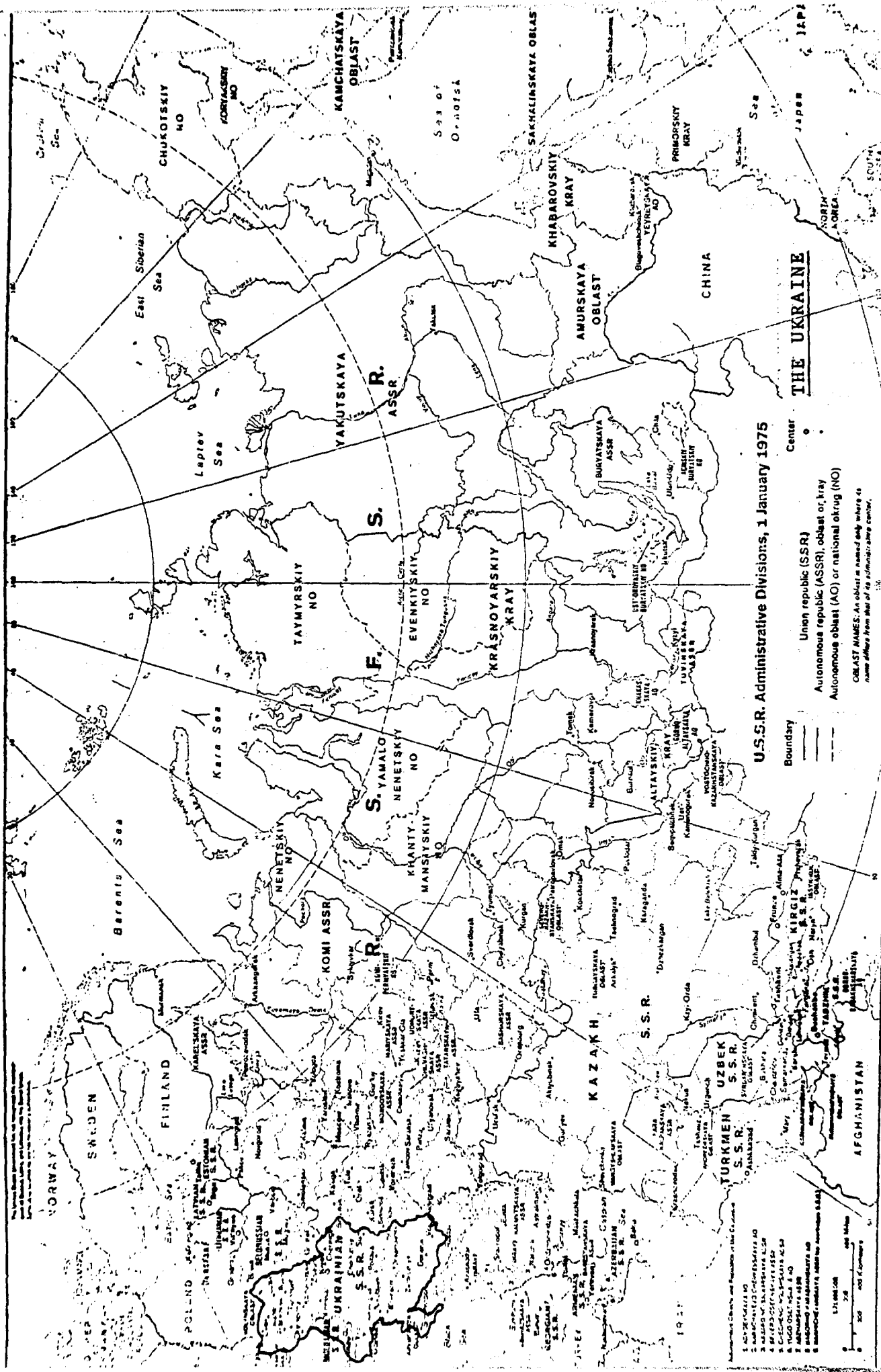
The North Caucasus MD (23) was formed on 2 July 1943 after the Germans had been expelled from the area. Its headquarters were established on the command of the Transcaucasus Front at Armavir from which they were moved to Rostov-na-Donu. After the war, on 9 July 1945, the MD was divided to become three MDs:

- (1) Kuban (17) -- made up of the Krasnodar Province, headquartered at Krasnodar;
- (2) Don (10) -- comprising the Rostov, Stalingrad, and Astrakhan oblasts, headquartered at Rostov-na-Donu; and
- (3) Stavropol' (30) -- including Stavropol' Province, Groznyy oblast and the Kabardian and North Ossetian ASSRs, headquartered at Stavropol'.

On 4 February 1946, the Don MD was renamed North Caucasus MD and the Stavropol' MD became a territorial district subordinate to the North Caucasus MD. In May of the same year, the Stavropol' and Kuban MDs disbanded, their headquarters disestablished, and their troops and territory were transferred to the North Caucasus MD. One month later, the Dagestan and North Ossetian ASSRs were removed from the Transcaucasus MD to become part of the North Caucasus MD.

In August 1949 the North Caucasus MD was renamed the Don MD and its territory reduced to three oblasts: Stalingrad, Rostov, and Astrakhan -- the territory of the earlier Don MD. The headquarters remained in Rostov-na-Donu. The rest of the area became the responsibility of a new North Caucasus MD, headquartered in Krasnodar. These actions were considered necessary in order to counter certain "troop command conditions"<sup>17</sup> that required that there be an MD on the Kuban river and one on the Don.

The conditions had evidently changed by 16 October 1953, (the date of North Caucasus MD commander General-Colonel S. G. Trofimenko's death) for three weeks later, on 9 November the Don MD was integrated into the North Caucasus MD. The MD has not undergone any further major changes involving its territory.



U.S.S.R. Administrative Divisions, 1 January 1975

THE UKRAINE

Center

Union republic (SSR)

Autonomous republic (ASSR), oblast or kray

Autonomous oblast (AO) or national okrug (NO)

OBLAST NAMES: An oblast is named only where its name differs from that of its administrative center.

Boundary

—

—

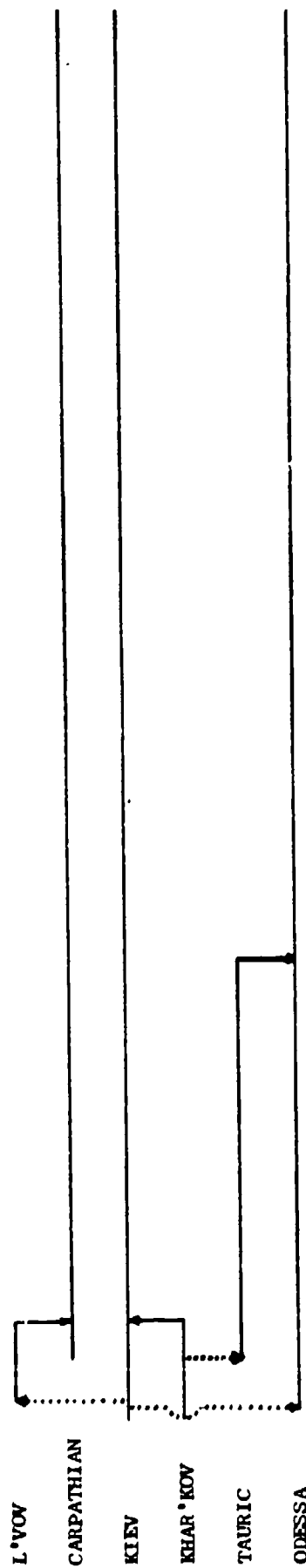
—

- 1. AO of Dagestan
- 2. AO of Ingushetia
- 3. AO of Kabard-Balkaria
- 4. AO of Karachay-Cherkessia
- 5. AO of North Ossetia-Alania
- 6. AO of South Ossetia
- 7. AO of Tatarstan
- 8. AO of Tuva
- 9. AO of Yakutia
- 10. AO of Chukotka

1:100,000,000  
0 500 1000 Kilometers  
0 500 1000 Miles

**MILITARY  
DISTRICTS**

44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 8:



**NOTE:** The direction and position of the arrowhead indicates:

- 1) the MD to which another was joined; →
- 2) the MD that received territory formerly part of another MD. .....→



The Khar'kov MD (15) was formed on 25 September 1943 and named for the city in which the MD was probably headquartered. Its territory included Khar'kov, Stalino (now Donetsk), Voroshilovgrad, Poltava, Sumy, Chernigov, Dnepropetrovsk, and Zaporozh'e oblasts and the Crimean ASSR. On 23 March 1944 the Zaporozh'e oblast and Crimean ASSR became part of the Odessa MD. In February 1946 it became the Khar'kov territorial district, subordinate to the Kiev MD. In June of the same year, it was disbanded, its headquarters disestablished, and its troops and territory became part of the Kiev MD.

The Kiev MD (16), which had been incorporated into the Southwest Front in September 1941, was formed again on 15 October 1943 after the Germans had been evicted from the area. The MD, headquartered in Kiev, comprised the Cherkassk, Kiev, Kirovograd, Vinnitsa, and Zhitomir oblasts. As neighboring MDs were created, territory was removed from the Kiev MD until, in March 1944, only two oblasts remained: the Kiev and Cherkassk. The dissolution of the Khar'kov MD and the addition of its troops and territory to the Kiev MD in June 1946 swelled the MD to its present dimensions.

The Odessa MD (25) was created by order of the People's Commissariat of Defense on 23 March 1944. Its headquarters were established in Kirovograd; its territory included the Zaporozh'e oblast and Crimean ASSR (formerly part of the Khar'kov MD), Kherson, Kirovograd (taken from the Kiev MD), Nikolaev, and Odessa oblasts and the Moldavian ASSR.

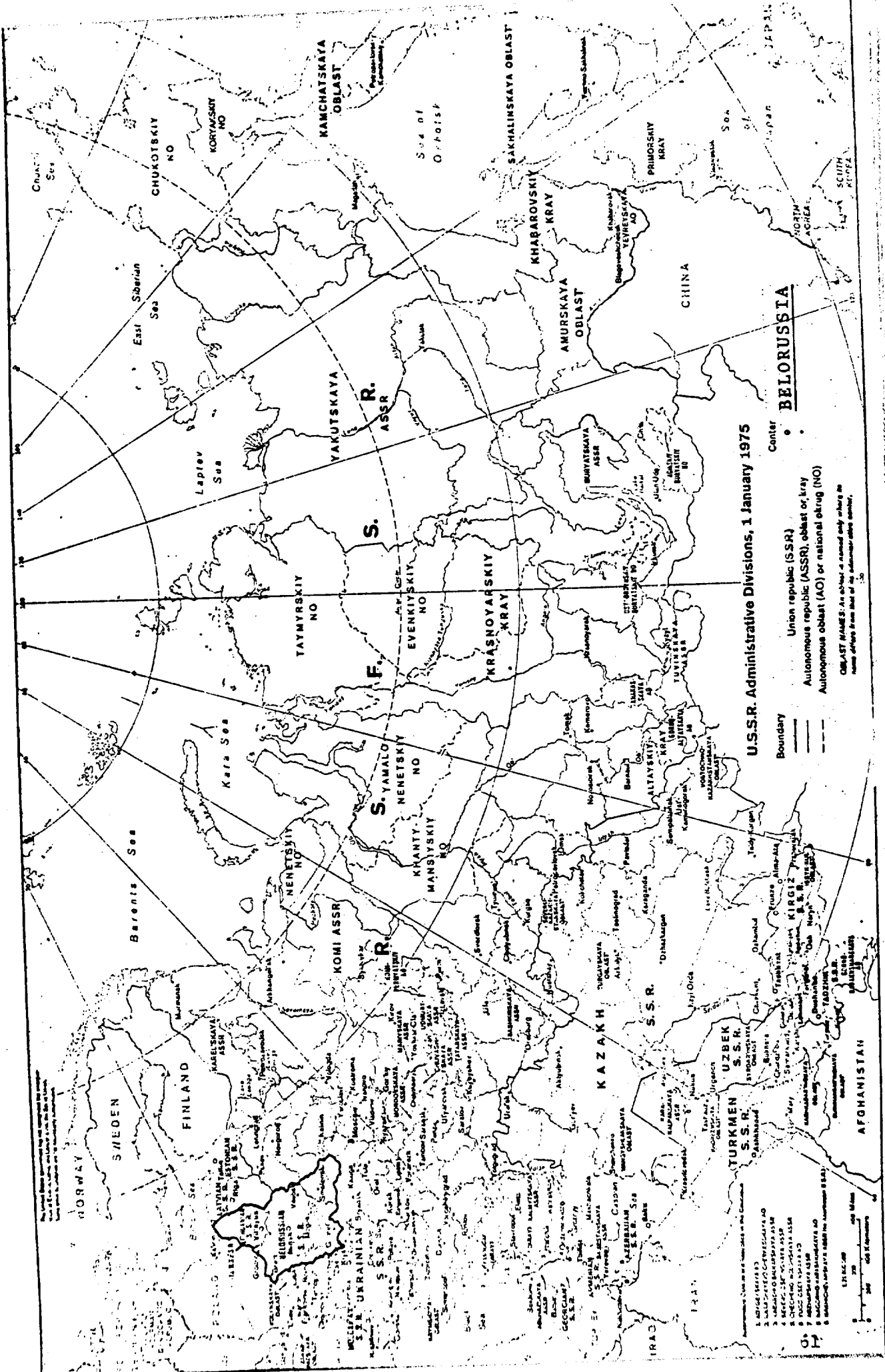
When the Tauric MD (33) was formed in July 1945, it comprised three territories taken from the Odessa MD: Kherson and Zaporozh'e oblasts and the Crimean ASSR. The MD headquarters, based on the field commands of the 22nd and the Independent Maritime Armies, were located in Simferopol'.

During the consolidation of MDs in April 1956, the Tauric MD was disbanded, its headquarters disestablished, and its troops and territory included in the Odessa MD.

The L'vov MD (19) was formed in May 1944 on the territory freed from the Germans in the Western Ukraine. In June and July 1944, MD headquarters were in Rovno; from August 1944 until June 1946, they were in L'vov. Initially the district included the Zhitomir (taken from the Kiev MD), Stanislav, Drogobych, L'vov, Chernovtsy, Ternopol', Rovno, and Volynian oblasts.

On 3 May 1946, the L'vov MD headquarters were disestablished, and the MD was disbanded. The troops and territory became part of the Carpathian MD.

On 9 July 1945 the Carpathian MD (7) was formed. Its headquarters, formed from the field command of the 4th Ukrainian Front, were located in Chernovtsy. Its territory comprised the Vinnitsa oblast (taken from the Kiev MD), the West Transcarpathian Ukraine (now the Transcarpathian oblast), and Kamenets-Podolsk (now the Khmel'nitsa oblast) without the Berezdovian, Polovian, Shepetovian, Izyaslav', and Slavutian rayons. Additionally, three oblasts were taken from the L'vov MD: Stanislav (now Ivano-Frankovsk), Ternopol', and Chernovtsy.



U.S.S.R. Administrative Divisions, 1 January 1975

Center  
• BELORUSSIA

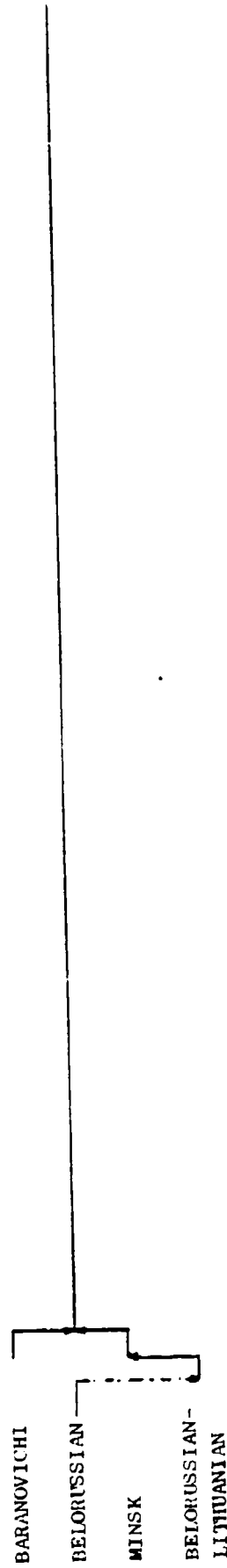
Union republic (SSR)  
Autonomous republic (ASSR), oblast or kray  
Autonomous oblast (AO) or national okrug (NO)

Boundary

OBLAST NAMES: An oblast is named only when its name differs from that of its administrative center.

- Abbreviations used on the map are listed in the following table:
- |                   |               |
|-------------------|---------------|
| 1. AFRICA         | AFRICA        |
| 2. AMERICA        | AMERICA       |
| 3. ASIA           | ASIA          |
| 4. EUROPE         | EUROPE        |
| 5. PACIFIC        | PACIFIC       |
| 6. NORTH AMERICA  | NORTH AMERICA |
| 7. SOUTH AMERICA  | SOUTH AMERICA |
| 8. AFRICA         | AFRICA        |
| 9. AMERICA        | AMERICA       |
| 10. ASIA          | ASIA          |
| 11. EUROPE        | EUROPE        |
| 12. PACIFIC       | PACIFIC       |
| 13. NORTH AMERICA | NORTH AMERICA |
| 14. SOUTH AMERICA | SOUTH AMERICA |

MILITARY DISTRICTS 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 8



NOTE: The direction and position of the arrowhead indicates:

- 1) the MD to which another MD was joined; ———→
- 2) the new name received by an MD. - - - - -→

In October 1943 the Belorussian MD (5), formed from the command of the Moscow Defense Zone, was headquartered in Smolensk. Its territory included the Smolensk oblast and the areas of the former Belorussian MD as they were retaken from the Germans. In July 1944 the Lithuanian SSR was added to the MD and at the same time the Smolensk oblast was probably transferred to the Moscow MD. One month later, headquarters were moved to Minsk. In January 1945 the MD was renamed the Belorussian-Lithuanian MD (6).

On 9 July 1945 the military responsibility for the area was reorganized. The Lithuanian SSR became part of the Baltic MD; the former Belorussian-Lithuanian MD headquarters became the Minsk MD (21) headquarters; and the Baranovichi MD (4) was formed from the field command of the Third Belorussian Front. It is not certain how the boundary lay between these two MDs. If their common border ran north-south, the Belorussian SSR would have been divided by oblast in this manner:

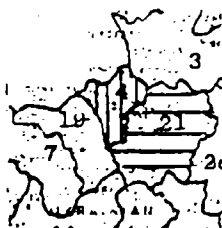
Baranovichi

Grodno  
Brest  
Pinsk  
Baranovichi

Minsk

Molodechno  
Polotsk  
Vitebsk  
Minsk  
Mogilev  
Bobruysk  
Gomel'  
Mozyr'

and the map would have looked like this:



If the border ran east-west, the division would have been:

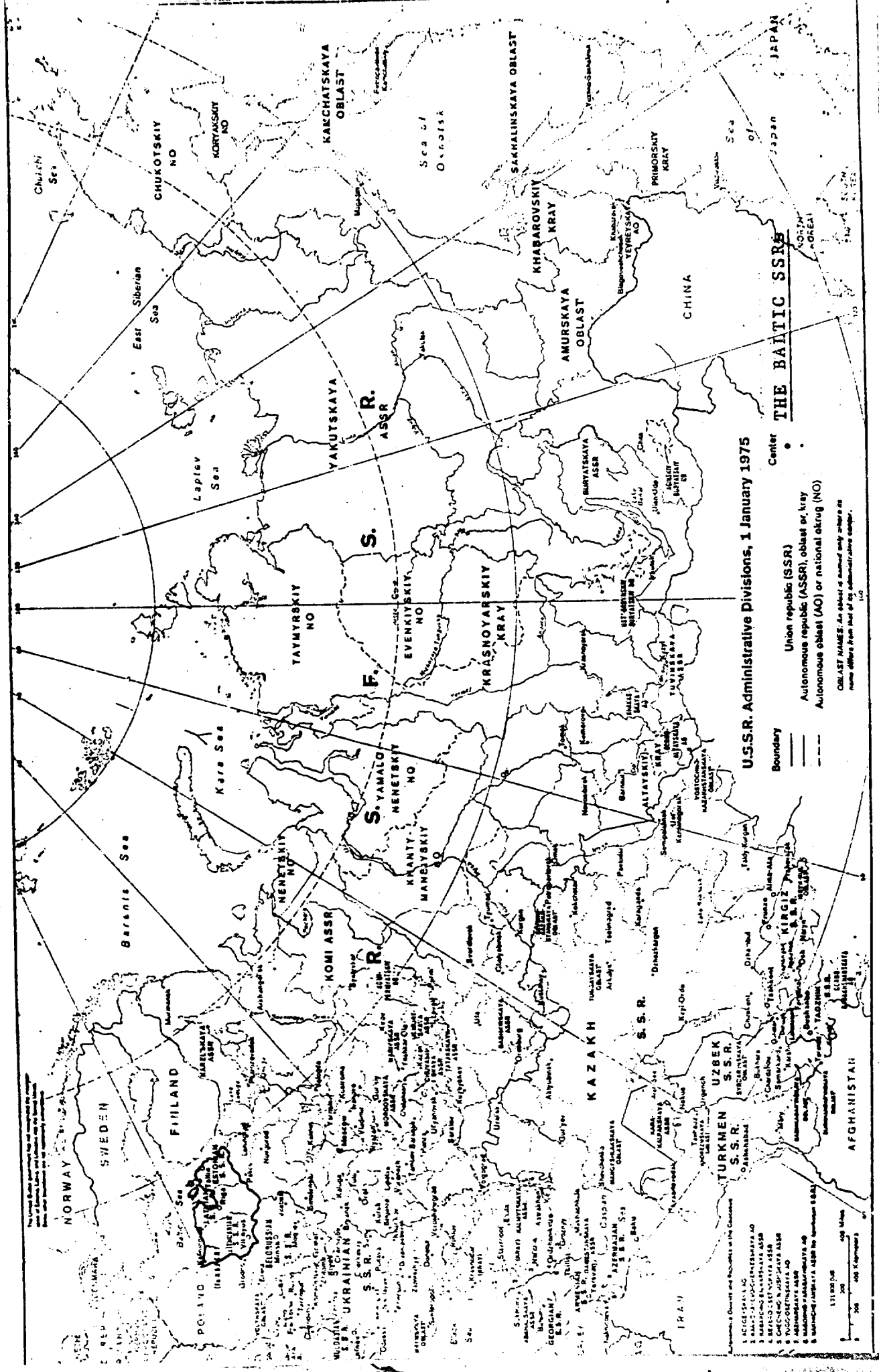
Grodno  
Brest  
Pinsk  
Baranovichi  
Bobruysk  
Mozyr'  
Gomel'

Molodechno  
Polotsk  
Vitebsk  
Minsk  
Mogilev



This arrangement lasted only a short time, for in February 1946, the two MDs were combined once more to form the Belorussian MD. The Baranovichi MD headquarters were moved to Bobruysk to become the headquarters staff of the Belorussian MD. In this way Marshal S. K. Timoshenko and his battle-proven staff replaced General-Lieutenant V. F. Yakovlev, who had less combat experience, as the commander of an extremely important border region.

Since early 1946 the borders of the district have remained unchanged.



U.S.S.R. Administrative Divisions, 1 January 1975

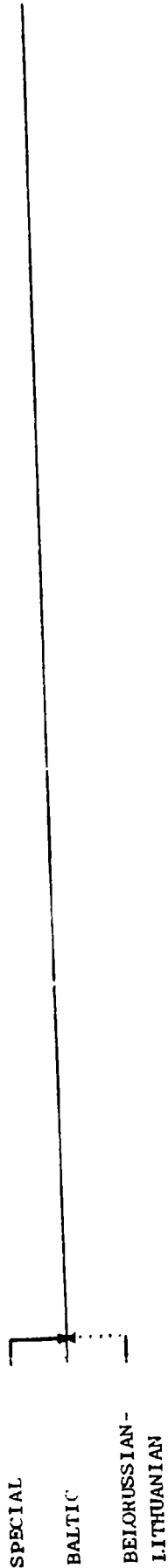
Center  
Union republic (SSR)  
Autonomous republic (ASSR), oblast or kray  
Autonomous oblast (AO) or national okrug (NO)  
OBLAST NAMES: An oblast is named only where its name differs from that of its administrative center.

Boundary  
—  
—  
—

- 1. S. R. Far East
- 2. S. R. Siberia
- 3. S. R. European
- 4. S. R. Central Asian
- 5. S. R. Caucasus
- 6. S. R. Transcaucasus
- 7. S. R. Transcaucasus
- 8. S. R. Transcaucasus
- 9. S. R. Transcaucasus
- 10. S. R. Transcaucasus



MILITARY DISTRICTS 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82

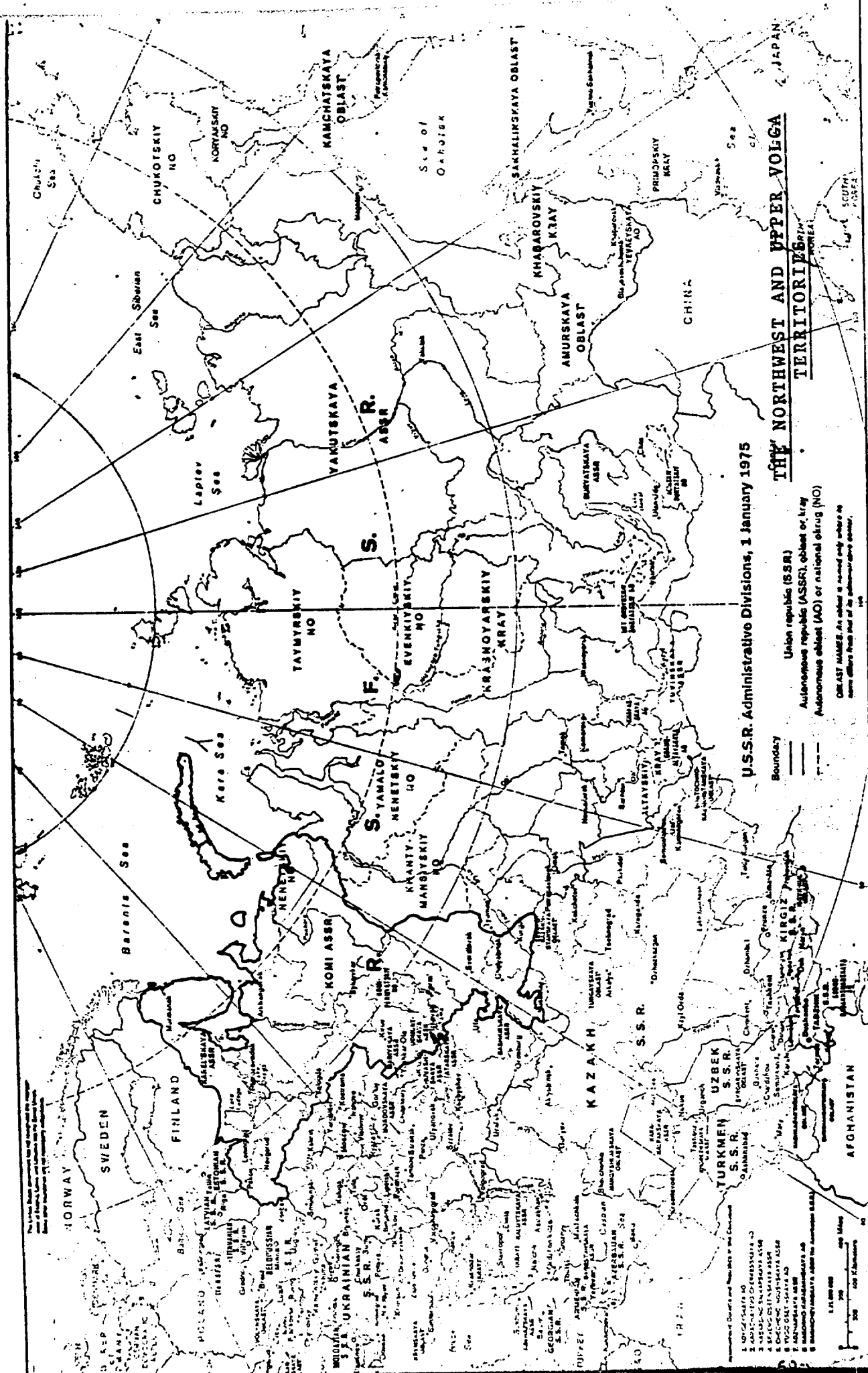


NOTE: The direction and position of the arrow head indicates:  
 1) the MD to which another was joined; —————→  
 2) the MD that received territory .....←  
 formerly part of another MD.

The Special MD (30) was formed 9 July 1945. Its headquarters were formed from the field command of the 11th Guards Army and were located in Konigsberg (now Kaliningrad). Its territory comprised the northern part of what was formerly East Prussia.

The Baltic MD (3) was also created on 9 July 1945. Its headquarters, based on the field command of the 1st Baltic Front, were located in Riga. Its territory included the Lithuanian SSR (formerly part of the Belorussian-Lithuanian MD [6]), Latvian and Estonian SSRs.

On 27 February 1946 the Special MD was disbanded and its troops and territory (the present-day Kaliningrad oblast) became part of the Baltic MD. There have been no subsequent boundary changes.



U.S.S.R. Administrative Divisions, 1 January 1975

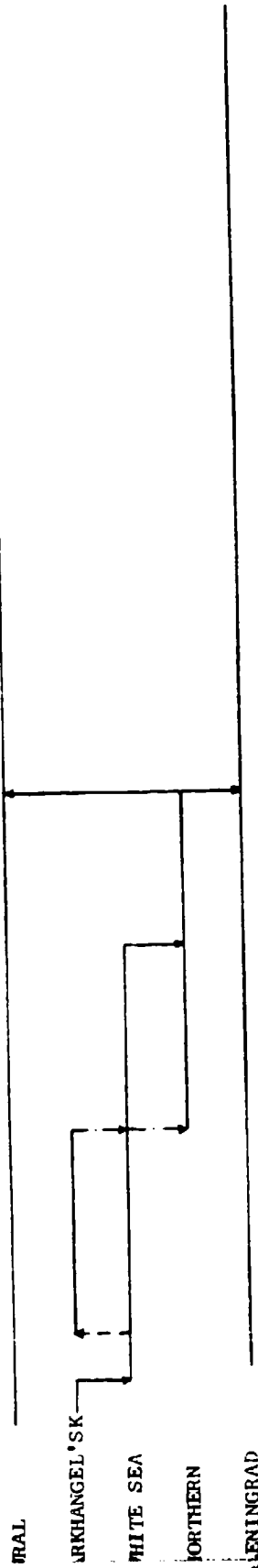
THE NORTHWEST AND UPPER VOLGA TERRITORIES

Union republics (SSR)  
Autonomous republics (ASSR), oblast or kraj  
Autonomous oblast (AO) or national okrug (NO)  
OBLAST NAMES: An oblast is named only where its name differs from that of its administrative center.

- Legend:
- Boundary
  - 1. UNION REPUBLICS (SSR)
  - 2. AUTONOMOUS REPUBLICS (ASSR), OBLAST OR KRAI
  - 3. AUTONOMOUS OBLAST (AO) OR NATIONAL OKRUG (NO)
  - 4. REPUBLIC OF GEORGIA
  - 5. REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA
  - 6. REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIDZHAN
  - 7. REPUBLIC OF DAGESTAN
  - 8. REPUBLIC OF CHECHENIA-INGUSHETIA
  - 9. REPUBLIC OF OSSETIA-ALANIA
  - 10. REPUBLIC OF KABARDYNO-BALKARIYA
  - 11. REPUBLIC OF TATARSTAN
  - 12. REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN
  - 13. REPUBLIC OF TURKMENISTAN
  - 14. REPUBLIC OF KYRGYZIA
  - 15. REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN
  - 16. REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA
  - 17. REPUBLIC OF ROMANIA
  - 18. REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA
  - 19. REPUBLIC OF GREECE
  - 20. REPUBLIC OF ITALY
  - 21. REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA
  - 22. REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA
  - 23. REPUBLIC OF GERMANY
  - 24. REPUBLIC OF POLAND
  - 25. REPUBLIC OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA
  - 26. REPUBLIC OF HUNGARY
  - 27. REPUBLIC OF SWEDEN
  - 28. REPUBLIC OF FINLAND
  - 29. REPUBLIC OF DENMARK
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  - 35. REPUBLIC OF POLAND
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  - 38. REPUBLIC OF SWEDEN
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  - 91. REPUBLIC OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA
  - 92. REPUBLIC OF HUNGARY
  - 93. REPUBLIC OF SWEDEN
  - 94. REPUBLIC OF FINLAND
  - 95. REPUBLIC OF DENMARK
  - 96. REPUBLIC OF NORWAY
  - 97. REPUBLIC OF SWITZERLAND
  - 98. REPUBLIC OF AUSTRIA
  - 99. REPUBLIC OF ITALY
  - 100. REPUBLIC OF GERMANY



MILITARY DISTRICTS 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82



NOTE: The direction and position of the arrowhead indicates:

- 1) the MD to which another MD was joined; ———→
- 2) the MD that was separated from another MD; - - - →
- 3) the new name received by an MD. - - - - -→

In March 1940 the Arkhangel'sk MD (1) was formed on the command of the 15th Army. Its territory included: Arkhangel'sk and Vologda oblasts and the Komi ASSR. During most of the war, the MD served as a training area for reserve troops before they were sent to front-line units. After the Zapolyar'e area was cleared of Germans, it was added to the Arkhangel'sk MD which was then renamed the White Sea (43) on 15 December 1944. The headquarters were removed from the city of Arkhangel'sk to Kem' on the Karelian peninsula. The MD comprised the Murmansk and Pechenga oblasts and the Karelo-Finnish SSR in addition to the area mentioned above.

In February 1946, when the Arkhangel'sk MD was re-established, it recovered its original territory, and its headquarters formed on the field command of the Second Shock Army, were located in Arkhangel'sk.

On 1 July 1951 the Arkhangel'sk MD was renamed the White Sea MD. The original White Sea MD was renamed the Northern MD (24). The headquarters remained in their respective cities. This configuration lasted until April 1956, when the White Sea MD was disbanded and its troops and territory became part of the Northern MD, thus repeating the action of 15 December 1944. In March 1960, the Northern MD was disbanded and its territory was distributed -- the Arkhangel'sk, Vologda, and Murmansk oblasts and the Karelian ASSR went to the Leningrad MD (18); the Komi ASSR became part of the Ural MD (39).

In July 1945, the field command of the Leningrad Front became the headquarters (located in Leningrad) of the Leningrad MD (18). The MD included Pskov, Leningrad, and Novgorod oblasts. In March 1960, the MD assumed its present size when the Northern MD (less the Komi ASSR) became part of the MD.

The Ural MD (39) was formed on 4 May 1918. It was not dissolved during the Second World War, but remained intact to serve as a training

area for recruits and reserves. At the end of the war, its territory comprised the Kurgan, Perm', Chelyabinsk, and Sverdlovsk oblasts. The MD was headquartered in Sverdlovsk. In May 1953, the Kirov oblast was transferred from the Gor'kiy MD to the Ural MD. In March 1960, the MD underwent its final change when the Komi ASSR was added to it.

APPENDIX II  
MILITARY DISTRICTS

*No.	NAME	<u>IN EXISTENCE</u>	
		<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>
1	Arkhangel'sk	a) Mar 1940	15 Dec 1944
		b) Feb 1946	1 Jul 1951
2	Baku	Aug 1945	May 1946
3	Baltic	9 Jul 1945	<u>PRESENT</u>
4	Baranovichi	9 Jul 1945	Feb 1946
5	Belorussian	a) Oct 1943	Jan 1945
		b) Feb 1946	<u>PRESENT</u>
6	Belorussian-Lithuanian	Jan 1945	Jul 1945
7	Carpathian	9 Jul 1945	<u>PRESENT</u>
8	Caucasus	Probably did not exist; see note in Appendix III	
9	Central Asian	a) 4 Jun 1926	9 Jul 1945
		b) Aug 1969	<u>PRESENT</u>
10	Don	a) 9 Jul 1945	4 Feb 1946
		b) Aug 1949	9 Nov 1953
11	East Siberian	Sep 1945	Apr 1953
12	Far East	10 Sep 1945	<u>PRESENT</u>
13	Gor'kiy	a) Jul 1945	May 1946
		b) Jun 1949	May 1953
14	Kazan'	Aug 1945	May 1946
15	Khar'kov	25 Sep 1943	Jun 1946
16	Kiev	15 Oct 1943	<u>PRESENT</u>
17	Kuban	9 Jul 1945	May 1946

18	Leningrad	20 July 1945	<u>PRESENT</u>
19	L'vov	May 1944	3 May 1946
20	Maritime	Sep 1945	May 1953
21	Minsk	9 Jul 1945	Feb 1946
22	Moscow	4 May 1918	<u>PRESENT</u>
23	North Caucasus	a) 2 Jul 1943	9 Jul 1945
		b) 4 Feb 1946	<u>PRESENT</u>
24	Northern	1 Jul 1951	Mar 1960
25	Odessa	23 Mar 1944	<u>PRESENT</u>
26	Orël	Aug 1943	9 Jul 1945
27	Siberian	a) 3 Dec 1919	Sep 1945
		b) 1956	<u>PRESENT</u>
28	Smolensk	9 Jul 1945	Jul 1946
29	Southern Ural	26 Nov 1941	15 Jan 1958
30	Special	9 Jul 1945	27 Feb 1946
31	Stavropol'	9 Jul 1945	May 1946
32	Steppe	9 Jul 1945	5 May 1946
33	Tauric	Jul 1945	Apr 1956
34	Tblisi	Aug 1945	May 1946
35	Transbaykal	May 1947	<u>PRESENT</u>
36	Transbaykal-Amur	Oct 1945	May 1947
37	Transcaucasus	May 1946	<u>PRESENT</u>
38	Turkestan	9 Jul 1945	<u>PRESENT</u>
39	Ural	4 May 1918	<u>PRESENT</u>
40	Volga	4 May 1918	<u>PRESENT</u>



41	Voronezh	a) 9 Jul 1945	Aug 1946
		b) Jun 1949	Aug 1960
42	West Siberian	9 Jul 1945	1956
43	White Sea	15 Dec 1944	Apr 1956

\* The number in the left column refers to the number by which the MDs are identified on the accompanying maps.

### APPENDIX III

#### MILITARY DISTRICT COMMANDERS (by MD)

This appendix is a listing of the commanders of each military district since at least 1 January 1945. The following explanations should make reading it easier.

Arkhangel'sk (1) = Arkhangel'sk is the name of the MD

(1) is the number used to identify the Arkhangel'sk MD  
on accompanying maps.

Ranks	G-M	General-Major
	G-L	General-Lieutenant
	G-C	General-Colonel
	G-A	General of the Army
	MSU	Marshal of the Soviet Union

G-C/G-A Indicates that the individual received a promotion  
while serving in this position.

#### TO . . . FROM

1946	- date as listed in source material
(Jan)	- date based on result of analysis; not stated in source material
(-Jan)	- should be read "some time before (and possibly including) January".
(+Jan)	- should be read "some time after (and possibly including) January".

The last two entry types are used when the general period  
is known with less certainty than in the first two instances.

ARKHANGEL'SK (1)

Fedyuninskiy, I. I.	G-C	1946	1947
Shcherbakov, V. I.	G-L	1947	(-Jun) 1949
Frolov, V. A.	G-C	(Jun) 1949	1 Jul 1951

BAKU (2)

Kolpakchi, V. Ya.		Aug 1945	(+Oct) 1945
Maslennikov, I. I.	G-A	(+Oct) 1945	May 1946

BALTIC (3)

Bagramyan, I. Kh.	G-A	9 Jul 1945	1954
Gorbatov, A. V.	G-C/G-A	1954	(-Apr) 1958
Batov, P. I.	G-A	(Apr) 1958	1959
Gusakovskiy, I. I.	G-L/G-C	1959	(-Mar) 1963
Khetagurov, G. I.	G-C/G-A	(Mar) 1963	1971
Govorov, V. L.	G-C	1971	(-Jul) 1972
Mayorov, A. M.	G-C/G-A	Jul 1972	(-26 Dec) 1980
Postnikov, S. I.	G-C	-26 Dec 1980	

BARANOVICHI (4)

Timoshenko, S. K.	MSU	(9) Jul 1945	Feb 1946
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BELORUSSIAN (5)

Yakovlev, V. F.	G-L	0	Jan 1945 - MD dis-
Timoshenko, S. K.	MSU		Apr) 1946 banded
Trofimenko, S. G.	G-C	(Apr)	-Aug) 1949
Timoshenko, S. K.	MSU	(Aug)	(-Apr) 1960
Komarov, V. N.	G-C	(Apr)	(Jul) 1961
Pen'kovskiy, V. A.	G-A	(Jul) 1961	(Jul) 1964
Maryakhin, S. S.	G-C	Jul 1964	(Sep) 1967
Tret'yak, I. M.	G-C	Sep 1967	(-May) 1976
Zaytsev, M. M.	G-C/G-A	-10 Jun 1976	4 Dec 1980
Ivanovskiy, Ye. F.	G-A	4 Dec 1980	

BELORUSSIAN-LITHUANIAN (6)

Yakovlev, V. F.	G-L	1945	(9) Jul 1945 MD disbanc
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#### CARPATHIAN (7)

Yaremenko, A. I.	G-A	9 Jul 1945	(-Feb) 1946
Galitskiy, K. N.	G-C	Feb 1946	1951
Konev, I. S.	MSU	1951	(-20 Mar) 1955
Batov, P. I.	G-A	(-20 Mar) 1955	(-Apr) 1958
Getman, A. L.	G-C/G-A	(-Apr) 1958	(Jun) 1964
Lashchenko, P. N.	G-C	Jul 1964	(-Oct) 1967
Bisyyarin, V. Z.	G-C	(-Oct) 1967	1969
Obaturov, G. I.	G-L/G-C	1970	(-Jul) 1973
Varennikov, V. I.	G-C/G-A	Jul 1973	(-4 Oct) 1979
Belikov, V. A.	G-C	(-4 Oct) 1979	

#### CAUCASUS (8)

Gusev, N. I.	G-C	(+May) 1945	1946
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(Although cited in the Soviet Military Encyclopedia, this MD probably did not exist because: (1) during the time Gusev was supposedly commanding the Caucasus MD, he was Kazan' MD commander; (2) all territory in the Caucasus was subordinated to other MDs at this time, thereby leaving no territory available for allocation to this MD. For these reasons, I presume that the citation in the SME was probably erroneous, and that the reference was actually to the Kazan' MD.)

#### CENTRAL ASIAN (9)

Lyashchenko, N. G.	G-A	Aug 1969	(Nov) 1977
Lushev, P. G.	G-C	Nov 1977	(-11 Dec) 1980
Yazov, D. T.	G-C	(-3 Feb) 1981	

#### DON (10)

Belov, P. A.	G-C	9 Jul 1945	Feb 1946
Romanovskiy, V. Z.	G-C	Aug 1949	(Jan) 1952
Zakhvatayev, N. D.	G-C	Jan 1952	9 Nov 1953

MD dis-banded

#### EAST SIBERIAN (11)

Romanenko, P. L.	G-C	1 Oct 1945	1947
Zakharov, G. F.	G-A	1947	1950
Gusev, D. N.	G-C	1950	1951
Boldin, I. V.	G-C	1951	May 1953

MD dis-banded

FAR EAST (12)

Purkayev, M. A.	G-A	(+10 Sep) 1945	Jan 1947
Krylov, N. I.	G-C	(Jan) 1947	(-23 Apr) 1953
Malinovskiy, R. Ya.	MSU	(23 Apr) 1953	(Mar) 1956
Pen'kovskiy, V. A.	G-C/G-A	(Mar) 1956	(-Jul) 1961
Kreyzer, Ya. G.	G-C/G-A	Jul 1961	(-Nov) 1963
Pavlovskiy, I. G.	G-C	(Nov) 1963	(Apr) 1967
Losik, O. A.	G-C	(Apr) 1967	(May) 1969
Tolubko, V. F.	G-C/G-A	(May) 1969	(Apr) 1972
Petrov, V. I.	G-C/G-A	Apr 1972	(May) 1976
Tret'yak, I. M.	G-C/G-A	May 1976	

GOR'KIY (13)

Smirnov, I. K.	G-L	Jul 1945	May 1946 MD dis-
			banded
Shcherbakov, V. I.	G-L	Jun 1949	May 1953 MD dis-
			banded

KAZAN' (14)

Lyapin, P. I.	G-L	Aug 1945	Oct 1945
Gusev, N. I.	G-C	(Oct) 1945	Feb 1946 MD dis-
			banded
			May 194

KHAR'KOV (15)

Kurbatkin, P. S.	G-M/G-L	Jun 1944	Jul 1945
Tyulenev, I. V.	G-A	Jul 1945	Jun 1946 MD dis-
			banded

KIEV (16)

Gerasimenko, V. F.	G-L	1944	1945
Grechko, A. A.	G-C	(May?) 1945	1953
Chuykov, V. I.	G-A/MSU	1953	(-Apr) 1960
Koshavoy, P. K.	G-C/G-A	(-Apr) 1960	(Jan) 1965
Yakubovskiy, I. I.	G-A	Jan 1965	Apr 1967
Kulikov, V. G.	G-C	May 1967	(Oct) 1969
Salmanov, G. I.	G-L/G-C	(Oct) 1969	(-Jun) 1969
Gerasimov, I. A.	G-C/G-A	Jun 1975	

KUBAN (17)

No information known about commander(s)

LENINGRAD (18)

Popov, M.M.	G-C	Apr 1944	(-Jul) 1945	Front commander
Govorov, L. A.	MSU	20 Jul 1945	(-27 Apr) 1946	
Gusev, D. N.	G-C	27 Apr 1946	(-Sep) 1949	
Luchinskiy, A. A.	G-C	Sep 1949	(May) 1953	
Zakharov, M. V.	G-A	21 May 1953	(-16 Nov) 1957	
Krylov, N. I.	G-A	16 Nov 1957	(-26 Oct) 1960	
Kazakov, M. I.	G-A	26 Oct 1960	(-30 Oct) 1965	
Sokolov, S. L.	G-C/G-A	30 Oct 1965	(-Apr) 1967	
Shavrov, I. Ye.	G-C	7 May 1967	(-5 Feb) 1973	
Gribkov, A. I.	G-C	5 Feb 1973	(Oct) 1976	
Sorokin, M. I.	G-C	(-21 Oct) 1976		

L'VOV (19)

Smirnov, I. K.	G-L	(May) 1944	(-Jul) 1945	
Popov, M. M.	G-C	(Jul) 1945	(May) 1946	MD disbanded

MARITIME (20)

Meretskov, K. A.	MSU	Oct 1945	Jun 1947	
Biryuzov, S. S.	G-C	Jun 1947	May 1953	MD disbanded

MINSK (21)

Yakovlev, V. F.	G-L	Jul 1945	Feb 1946	
((All information in this entry assumed; no source document available))				

MOSCOW (22)

Artem'ev, P. A.	G-L/G-C	1941	(Jul) 1947	
Meretskov, K. A.	MSU	(Jul) 1947	(-Jun) 1949	
Artem'ev, P. A.	G-C	(Jun) 1949	5 Mar 1953	
Moskalenko, K. S.	MSU	(Mar) 1953	(-Oct) 1960	
Krylov, N. I.	G-A/MSU	(Oct) 1960	(-Mar) 1963	
Beloborodov, A. P.	G-A	(Mar) 1963	(-Jun) 1968	
Ivanovskiy, Ye. F.	G-C	Jun 1968	(Jul) 1972	
Govorov, V. L.	G-C/G-A	Jul 1972	(-11 Dec) 1980	
Lushev, P. G.	G-C	(-11 Dec) 1980		

### NORTH CAUCASUS (23)

Klykov, N. K.	G-L	Apr 1944	(-Dec) 1945
Belov, P. A.	G-C	(Feb) 1946	1948
Romanovskiy, V. Z.	G-C	1948	(Aug) 1949
Trofimenko, S. G.	G-C	(Aug) 1949	16 Oct 1953-Died while
Pukhov, N. P.	G-C	(+16 Oct) 1953	(-Nov) 1953 in position
Yeremenko, A. I.	G-A/MSU	(Nov) 1953	(-Apr) 1958
Pliyev, I. A.	G-C/G-A	Apr 1958	(-Jun) 1968
Altunin, A. T.	G-L/G-C	Jun 1968	Oct 1970
Litovtsev, D. I.	G-L/G-C	(+Oct) 1970	(-May) 1976
Belikov, V. A.	G-L/G-C	May 1976	(-26 Sep) 1979
Postnikov, S. I.	G-L/G-C	(-26 Sep) 1979	(-30 Nov) 1980
Meretskov, V. K.	G-C	(-30 Nov) 1980	

### NORTHERN (24)

Meretskov, K. A.	MSU	Jun 1951	May 1954
Kolpakchi, V. Ya.	G-C	Jun 1954	Jan 1956
Stuchenko, A. T.	G-C	Jan 1956	Apr 1960

MD dis-banded

### ODESSA (25)

Yushkevich, V. A.	G-L/G-C	Oct 1944	(-Jul) 1946
Zhukov, G. K.	MSU	Jul 1946	(-Feb) 1948
Pukhov, N. P.	G-C	Feb 1948	1951
Galitskiy, K.N.	G-C	1951	1954
Radziyevskiy, A. I.	G-C	1954	1959
Babadzhanyan, A. Kh.	G-C	1959	1967
Lugovtsev, M. V.	G-C	1967	1967
Shurupov, A. G.	G-C	1968	(-May) 1974
Voloshin, I. M.	G-L/G-C	(-21 May) 1974	

### OREL (26)

Popov, M. T.	G-L	Aug 1943	Jul 1945	MD dis-banded
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### SIBERIAN (27)

Kurdyumov, V. N.	G-L	(Apr) 1944	Apr 1945	MD renamed
Pukhov, N. P.	G-C	1956	1957	
Koshevoy, P. K.	G-C	1957	(-Apr) 1960	
Baklanov, G. V.	G-C	(Apr) 1960	(-Jul) 1964	
Ivanov, S. P.	G-C	(+Jul) 1964	(-Apr) 1968	
Tolubko, V. F.	G-C	Apr 1968	(-May) 1969	
Khomulo, M. G.	G-C	(-3 Jun) 1969	1978	
Snetkov, B. V.	G-C	Jan 1979		

SMOLENSK (28)

Davydovskiy, I. Ye.	G-L	Jul 1945	Nov 1945	
Ozerov, F. P.	G-L	Nov 1945	May 1946	MD dis-banded

SOUTH URAL (29)

Reyter, M. A.	G-C	1943	1945	
Zakharov, G. F.	G-A	(+May) 1945	(-Apr) 1946	
Timoshenko, S. K.	MSU	(Apr) 1946	1949	
Belov, P. A.	G-C	1949	(-May) 1955	
Kreyzer, Ya. G.	G-C	May 1955	15 Jan 1958	MD dis-banded

SPECIAL (30)

Galitskiy, K. N.	G-C	Jul 1945	27 Feb 1946	MD dis-banded
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STAVROPOL' (31)

Korovnikov, I. T.	G-L	Jul 1945	Feb 1946	
Yakovlev, V. F.	G-L	Feb 1946	May 1946	MD dis-banded

STEPPE (32)

Kurbatkin, P. S.	G-L	Jul 1945	May 1946	MD dis-banded
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TAURIC (33)

Mel'nik, K. S.	G-L	Jul 1945	Jun 1946	
Popov, M. M.	G-C/G-A	Jun 1946	Jul 1954	
Fomenko, S. S.	G-L	Jul 1954	Sep 1954	Acting Commander
Lyudnikov, I. I.	G-C	Sep 1954	Jun 1956	MD dis-banded

TBLISI (34)

Trofimenko, S. G.	G-C	Jul 1945	Apr 1946	
Ozimin, M. I.	G-L	Apr 1946	May 1946	MD dis-banded



TRANSBAYKAL (35)

Koroteyev, K. A.	G-C	May 1947	1951
Gusev, D. N.	G-C	1951	1953
Trotsenko, Ye. G.	G-C	1953	1956
Lelyushchenko, D. D.	G-C	1956	(-Feb) 1958
Kreyzer, Ya. G.	G-C	Feb 1958	(-Jun) 1960
Alekseyev, D. F.	G-C	(Jun?) 1960	(-Apr) 1966
Belik, P. A.	G-C/G-A	Apr 1966	(-10 Mar) 1979
Salmanov, G. I.	G-C/G-A	(-10 Mar) 1979	

TRANSBAYKAL-AMUR (36)

Malinovskiy, R. Ya.	MSU	Oct 1945	May 1947 MD dis- banded
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TRANSCAUCASUS (37)

Maslennikov, I. I.	G-A	May 1946	(Jan) 1947
Tolbukhin, F. I.	MSU	Jan 1947	17 Oct 1949-Died while
Antonov, A. I.	G-A	1950	Apr 1954 in position
Fedyuninskiy, I. I.	G-A	(+Apr) 1954	(-Oct) 1957
Rokossovskiy, K. K.	MSU	Oct 1957	(Dec) 1957
Galitskiy, K. N.	G-A	(Jan) 1958	(Jun) 1961
Stuchenko, A. T.	G-C/G-A	Jun 1961	(Apr) 1968
Kurkotkin, S. K.	G-C	Apr 1968	(Sep) 1971
Mel'nikov, P. V.	G-C	Oct 1971	(-22 Feb) 1978
Kulishev, O. F.	G-C	(-22 Feb) 1978	

TURKESTAN (38)

Lipatov, M. F.	G-M	1944	(-Jul) 1945
Petrov, I. Ye.	G-A	Jul 1945	(Jul) 1952
Radziyevskiy, A. I.	G-L	(Jul) 1952	(May) 1953
Luchinskiy, A. A.	G-C/G-A	(May) 1953	1957
Fedyuninskiy, I. I.	G-A	1957	(-Dec) 1965
Lyashchenko, N. G.	G-C/G-A	Dec 1965	(Aug) 1969
Belonozhko, S. Ye.	G-C	(-24 Jan) 1970	Dec 1978-Died while
Maksimov, Yu. P.	G-L/G-C	(Jan) 1979	in position

### URAL (39)

Katkov, A. V.	G-M/G-L	Oct 1941	(Feb) 1945
Kuznetsov, F. I.	G-C	Feb 1945	(-Feb) 1948
Zhukov, G. K.	MSU	Feb 1948	(-6 Mar) 1953
Kazakov, M. I.	G-C/G-A	May 1953	(Feb) 1956
Krylov, N. I.	G-A	Feb 1956	(Nov) 1957
Lelyushchenko, D. D.	G-C/G-A	Apr 1958	(-Jun) 1960
Kreyzer, Ya. G.	G-C	Jun 1960	(-Jul) 1961
Tutarinov, I. V.	G-C	Jul 1961	(Oct) 1965
Yegorovskiy, A. A.	G-L/G-C	Oct 1965	(-May) 1970
Sil'chenko, N. K.	G-L/G-C	May 1970	(-20 May) 1980
Tyagunov, M. A.	G-C	(-20 May) 1980	

### VOLGA (40)

Khozin, M. S.	G-C	Mar 1944	(May) 1945
Gordov, V. N.	G-C	(+May) 1945	(Jul) 1946
Yushkevich, V. A.	G-C	(Jul) 1946	1950
Perekrestov, G. N.	G-L	1950	1953
Kuznetsov, V. I.	G-C	1953	1957
Komarov, V. N.	G-C	1957	(Apr) 1960
Stuchenko, A. T.	G-C	Apr 1960	(-Jun) 1961
Pavlovskiy, I. G.	G-C	Jun 1961	(Nov) 1963
Lyashchenko, N. G.	G-C	Nov 1963	(Dec) 1965
Ogarkov, N. V.	G-C	Dec 1965	(Apr) 1968
Parshikov, A. M.	G-C	(Apr) 1968	(-18 Dec) 1971
Naumenko, Yu. A.	G-L/G-C	(-18 Dec) 1971	(-24 Aug) 1975
Lushev, P. G.	G-L/G-C	(+24 Aug) 1975	(-Nov) 1977
Konchits, V. N.	G-C	Nov 1977	

### VORONEZH (41)

Romanovskiy, V. Z.	G-C	Aug 1945	Apr 1946	MD dis-banded
Shumilov, M. S.	G-C	Jun 1949	1955	
Beloborodov, A. P.	G-C	1955	(-May) 1957	
Andreyev, A. M.	G-C	(May) 1957	Aug 1960	MD dis-banded

### WEST SIBERIAN (42)

Kurdyumov, V. N.	G-L	Apr 1945	(-Feb) 1946	
Yeremenko, A. I.	G-A	(Feb) 1946	(-Nov) 1953	
Pukhov, N. P.	G-C	Nov 1953	1956	MD renamed Siberian MD

WHITE SEA (43)

Frolov, V. A.	G-C	Dec 1944	1948
Shumilov, M. S.	G-C	1948	(-Jun) 1949
Meretskov, K.A.	MSU	(Jun) 1949	(-Jun) 1951
Frolov, V. A.	G-C	(Jun) 1951	Apr 1956 MD dis- banded

# APPENDIX IV

## CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

### OF MILITARY DISTRICT COMMANDERS

#### LEGEND:

NAME = Member CC CPSU

NAME = Candidate Member CC CPSU

name = Member, Central Auditing Commission

\* = Position not in existence

+ = Position in existence, but not represented

#### PARTY CONGRESSES

19 5 - 14 October 1952  
 20 14 - 25 February 1956  
 21 27 January - 5 February 1959 (special session)  
 22 17 - 31 October 1961

23 29 March - 8 April 1966  
 24 30 March - 9 April 1971  
 25 24 February - 5 March 1976  
 26 23 February - 3 March 1981

POSITION	19	20	22	23	24	25	26
FAR EAST FORCES CINC	R. Ya. MALINOVSKIY	*	*	*	*	*	(V. L. GOVOROV)
BALTIC MD COMMANDER	I. Kh. BAGRAMYAN	A. V. CORBATOV	+	+	+	A. M. MAYOROV	s. i. postnikov
BELORUSSIAN MD COMMANDER	S. K. TIMOSHENKO	S. K. TIMOSHENKO	V. A. PEN'KOVSKIY	S. S. MARYAKHIN	I. M. TRET'YAK	I. M. TRET'YAK	Ye. F. IVANOVSKIY
CARPATHIAN MD COMMANDER	I. S. KONEV	+	A. L. GETMAN	p. n. lashchenko	+	+	+
CENTRAL ASIAN MD COMMANDER	*	*	*	*	N. G. LYASHCHENKO	N. G. LYASHCHENKO	D. T. YAZOV

	19	20	22	23	24	25	26
FAR EAST MD COMMANDER	+	R. Ya. <u>MALINOVSKIY</u>	ya. g. kreyzer	i. g. pavlovskiy	V. F. TOLUBKO	V. I. <u>PETROV</u>	I. M. <u>TRET'YAK</u>
KIEV MD COMMANDER	A. A. GRECHKO	V. I. CHUYKOV	P. K. KOSHEVOY	I. I. <u>YAKUBOVSKIY</u>	G. I. SALMANOV	I. A. GERASIMOV	I. A. GERASIMOV
LENINGRAD MD COMMANDER	A. A. LUCHINSKIY	+	M. I. KAZAKOV	S. L. SOKOLOV	I. Ye. <u>SHAVROV</u>	A. I. GRIBKOV	M. I. SOROKIN
MOSCOW MD COMMANDER	P. A. ARTEM'EV	K. S. <u>MOSKALENKO</u>	N. I. <u>KRYLOV</u>	A. P. <u>BELOBORODOV</u>	Ye. F. <u>IVANOVSKIY</u>	V. L. GOVOROV	P. G. <u>LUSHEV</u>
NORTH CAUCASUS MD COMMANDER	+	A. I. YEREMENKO	I. A. PLIYEV	+	+	+	+
NORTHERN MD COMMANDER	K. A. MERETSKOV	+	*	*	*	*	*
ODESSA MD COMMANDER	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
SIBERIAN MD COMMANDER	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
TRANSBAYKAL MD COMMANDER	+	+	+	+	P. a. belik	P. a. belik	G. I. <u>SALMANOV</u>
TRANSCAUCASUS MD COMMANDER	+	+	A. T. STUCHENKO	A. T. STUCHENKO	S. K. KURKOTKIN	+	+

	19	20	22	23	24	25	26
TURKESTAN MD COMMANDER	+	A. A. LUCHINSKIY	+	N. G. LYASHCHENKO	+	+	Yu. P. MAKSIMOV
URAL MD COMMANDER	G. K. ZHUKOV	+	+	+	+	+	+
VOLGA MD COMMANDER	+	+	+	N. V. OGARKOV	+	+	+
GSFG CINC	V. I. CHUYKOV	A. A. GRECHKO	I. S. KONEV	P. K. KOSHEVOY	V. G. KULIKOV	Ye. P. IVANOVSKIY	M. M. ZAYTSEV

#### FOOTNOTES

<sup>1</sup>N. T. Konashenko, "Voyennyy Okrug," Sovetskaya Voyennaya Ehntsiklopediya, ed. A. A. Grechko, II, (1976), p. 270.

<sup>2</sup>S. A. Tyushkevich, Sovetskiye Vooruzhenniye Sily: Istoriya stroitel'stva, (Moscow, Voenizdat, 1978), p. 374.

<sup>3</sup>M. V. Zakharov, 50 Let Sovetskikh Vooruzhennykh Sil SSSR, (Moscow, Voenizdat, 1968), p. 478.

<sup>4</sup>Tyushkevich, pp. 377-378.

<sup>5</sup>Ibid., p. 415.

<sup>6</sup>"Soviet Military Strategy for World Domination," Beijing Review, #4 January 28, 1980, p. 18.

<sup>7</sup>H. F. Scott, "Top Leaders of the Soviet Armed Forces," Air Force Magazine, March, 1981, p. 77.

<sup>8</sup>"Priyem Tov. I. I. Brezhnevym Voennachal'nikov," Krasnaya Zvezda, December 29, 1978, p. 1.

<sup>9</sup>"Nekrolog M. S. Mikhalkin," Krasnaya Zvezda, December 12, 1980, p. 4.

<sup>10</sup>P. Kruzhin, "Voyenniye v Vysshikh Organakh KPSS," Radio Svoboda Issledovatel'skiy Byulleten', March 18, 1981, p. 6.

<sup>11</sup>Tom Wolfe, The Right Stuff, (New York: Bantam Books, Inc., 1980), p. 19.

<sup>12</sup>M. P. Skirido, Narod, armiya, polkovodets (The People, the Army, the Commander), U. S. Air Force Soviet Military Thought series; (Moscow, Voenizdat, 1970), pp. 134-135.

<sup>13</sup>Ibid., p. vii.

<sup>14</sup>A. M. Vasilevskiy, Delo Vsey Zhizni, (Moscow, Politizdat, 1973), p. 528.

<sup>15</sup>V. L. Langer, The Encyclopedia of World History, 5th ed.; (Boston, Houghton Mifflin Company, 1972), p. 1218.

<sup>16</sup>P. Kruzhin, "New Soviet Commander Takes Over in East Germany," Radio Liberty Bulletin, RL464/80, December 1980, p. 2.

<sup>17</sup>V. A. Belikov, "Severo-Kavkazskiy Voyennyy Okrug," Sovetskaya Voyennaya Ehntsiklopediya, ed. N. V. Ogarkov, VII, 1979, pp. 305-306.

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